

THE
VOYAGES,
SHIPWRECK, TRAVELS,
DISTRESSES, STRANGE ADVENTURES,
AND
MIRACULOUS PRESERVATION,
OF
William Bingfield, Esq.

WHO,

With two others, was cast away on a Desolated Island, where they discovered the surprising ferocity and tractable disposition of that amazing Animal called

The DOG BIRD.

Likewise an account of his dispersing an immense multitude of
AFRICAN CANNIBALS,

Who were feasting on the miserable wretches they had taken Captives, one of whom our Author releases. He then reinstates an INDIAN King, who generously rewards him for his valour; but at the death of this Monarch is again reduced to great hardships—Fights for ABLUFFCAR, gains the victory, and is once more richly rewarded—Makes his escape, engages his passage, and is taken by Pirates—overpowers them in a storm, and retakes the Ship—want provision—cast lots who shall die—eat human flesh—Are released; and, after many perilous dangers and eminent exploits, arrive safe in ENGLAND.

LONDON:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY S. FISHER,
No. 10, ST. JOHN'S LANE, CLERKENWELL;

ALSO SOLD BY

T. HURST, No. 32, Paternoster-row;
and R. C. STAINES, Chelmsford.

1799.



23 JY 59

Pub. July 2, 1850 by S. Fyler London.



Pingfield releases Bomarrab, an Indian King who was entombed
alive by order of the Governor of his Kingdom.

THE
VOYAGES,
SHIPWRECK, TRAVELS,
DISTRESSES, AND STRANGE ADVENTURES,
OF
William Bingfield, Esq.

IT was not many days after the landing of the ever renowned *William*, prince of *Orange*, that my mother was delivered of me, while my father was absent, in the service of the late king *James II*, as captain in those forces which were dispatched to *Salisbury*, to oppose that hero's progress. But my father, with his regiment, joining his highness, became afterward in such favour with him, and was so constantly upon duty, that he had no possible opportunity of visiting my mother at his seat in *Norfolk*, before he was sent to *Ireland*; where he was slain in the very fight of his Sovereign, at the battle of the *Boyne*, May 31st, 1690.

His death left me entirely under the care and tuition of my mother, whose indulgence proved so excessive toward me, that I no sooner became sensible of life and action than I found myself at the head of her family. My mother's jointure of about 200 pounds a year arose from her own fortune, which had been settled upon her at her marriage with my father.

I was put to school, where I continued 'till the end of my 17th year, under her own eye; when, becoming somewhat manly (for I was tall of my age), I began to look above the slavish confinement of a scholastic life; and my mind hankering after other employment, I could no longer apply to my studies with any prospect of proficiency, but was perpetually teizing her to introduce me to the world.

Bingfield releases Bomarrab, an Indian King, who was entombed alive by order of the Governor of his Kingdom.

About this time some regiments, with their officers, were quartered round us, waiting orders for their embarkation to *Holland*. My father having been of that profession, and myself being struck with the gaiety of their appearance, and the respect that was every where paid them; I could not rest satisfied, till I had introduced myself to their notice. This I soon accomplished, by first hinting to some of them that my father had been of their cloth, and what an earnest desire I myself had of being initiated among them; and at the same time observing an ensign, I demanded whether I might be admitted to a pair of colours.

The officers were so pleased with my discourse, that they gratified my expectations, by assurances that I might, if my mother would take me to town and apply properly. I thereupon grew so extremely fond of their company, that during their stay, which was about three weeks, I never once attempted to find my way to school; but having money at my command, I spent as they did, they calling me captain, and encouraging me in my resolution.

Being now determined against any more learning, I communicated my intentions to my mother, who seemed exceedingly startled at it: for having lost the best of husbands in the wars, she looked upon my engagement in the same sphere as the committing me to certain slaughter. However, I prevailed for inviting several of the officers to dine with her, not doubting but that they would be able, by their arguments, to remove her prejudices, and instruct her in some method of application for obtaining my desires.

She entertained them very genteely; but, poor woman! could scarce refrain from tears at the sight of them, when she recollected the satisfaction she had taken in my father's conversation, under the same uniform. I had previously acquainted them how agreeable it would be to me, that they should commend my choice of the army, amplify the advantages, and reduce the dangers and inconveniences of that course of life; which they accordingly did.

Observing my mother to be wavering and unsettled, I was seldom without one or more of the officers at our house; till by degrees she entered into my measures; and no sooner were they shipped off for *Holland*, than we set out for *London*, to procure my admission upon the establishment.

We took an house near *Whitehall*, where my mother renewed her former acquaintance with some of my father's cotemporaries, who by that time were advanced to superior ranks in the army; and more especially with one, a lieutenant-general, with whom she had formerly been intimate. She acquainted him with the design of her journey to *London*, in compliance with my inclinations, begging both his advice and assistance, in procuring me what I so ardently desired.

The general pronounced it a matter of much greater difficulty to gratify me than my mother had imagined; urging many reasons for what he offered; but concluded, with his inclination to serve the son of his old friend, to the utmost of his power; and that he would employ his interest to promote me.

My mother and I waited upon the general for several months, under constant expectation of my preferment; till growing almost weary of an ineffectual solicitation, we were just engaging in other methods of obtaining it, when the General calling upon my mother one morning, assured her of his having now completed the affair; for that he had found out an ensigncy, at the disposal of a great lady at court, with whom he had an interest; but that she would expect a present of 200l. upon signing my commission.

My mother and I, who had buoyed ourselves up with the prospect of my being presented with this post, through the general's interest in the army and at court, were somewhat startled at the proposal; but rather than have our work to begin again, and that I might not suffer a disappointment, she submitted to make the *present* (as the general called it).

I had not long been in my new capacity, before accidentally I fell into company with a young lady,

every way so agreeable to my taste, as to induce me to offer her marriage. She was young, beautiful, and an excellent economist; but had only a small fortune of her own, except what she might reasonably expect from several rich childless relations; for her parents being dead, she lived with a maiden aunt, in whose power also it was to behave very handsomely to her. I was then only in my 20th year; when, after a courtship of full two years continuance, wherein our affections were unalterably confirmed for each other, I at once lost all further knowledge of my mistress, or to what part of the world she was removed; except that, after a long and minute enquiry, I gained a sort of vague information, that she was gone to an uncle which she had beyond sea; but in what particular region, I could not obtain the least intelligence.

The loss of a person so dear to me, and in this surprising manner, almost overcame me. I languished, nor could I admit the least thought of any other thing than my dearest *Sally*, to occupy my mind (for her name was *Sarah Moreton*). I lost all desire, not only for my diversions but for my food; daily declining in my strength and vigour; and had it not been for a draught that was made out of my regiment, and several others, to go abroad, I doubt not, but my melancholy would soon have brought me to the grave.

The men were to be sent to *Africa* to guard some of the company's foirs; and we decided who should go by lot. I happened to be one of that number, and on embarkation was to be advanced as captain over the transports.

This did not a little please me, as through these means my pay would be considerably augmented; besides, I had been a long time dissatisfied with my confinement to *England*, owing to the loss of *Sally*; therefore, a change to any part of the world was agreeable to me, in hopes of meeting with her. Three ships were immediately sent with 260 men; a larger number being to follow us, with all expedition.

Our ship was so crowded, and the weather so sultry,

that (advancing near the line) our men fell down so fast, that we were in fear of losing the greatest part of them; when the master assured us, that we should reach our port in a few weeks. We had but twelve officers on board, nine of whom were so ill that they could not stir from their beds, and the tenth could scarce crawl out upon deck for air; but myself, and one *Roger Fuller*, an ensign in my regiment, still held out in perfect health; though the concern of 90 men lay so heavy upon us, that we could scarce find time either for eating or sleeping; nor had we hopes long of bearing up against the general calamity ourselves.

We had now crossed the line, where the weather was so excessive hot, that we were almost melted; but *Fuller* and I were obliged to be thrice a-day between decks, to visit the sick men round, and supply them with what necessaries we were able to afford them.

It was on a *Sunday* night, just after *Fuller* and I had been reading in the *Bible* to several of the sick officers and men, that before we went our evening rounds, we took a turn upon deck, to sweeten and refresh ourselves; when in less than a quarter of an hour, from as clear a sky as ever was seen, about sun-set there arose so tempestuous a storm at north-east, and then at west, that in less than an hour it had snapped off the main-mast in the middle, carried away the fore-mast, yards, and sails, and so dreadfully torn and shattered the shrouds and tackling, that the mariners had not the least command or government of the ship, nor were there scarcely hands enough on board to keep her in any proper direction to the wind.

Our master, who was in a very drooping way himself, had not the least courage left, either to assist, or order what was necessary to be done; but both he and the crew, giving up all for lost, seemed to acknowledge, by their inactivity, that the bottom of the sea would prove an easy remedy to their affliction. Nor is it conceivable, what little concern was shown by the few who were able to stir at all, for their own preservation; as for those confined between decks, and to their

hammocks, they were obliged to submit to fate; for none of us had leisure to administer the least assistance.

Fuller and I had been upon deck all night, offering the captain what help we could afford him, and executing such orders, as by mere compulsion we extorted from him; but though we were extremely tired, yet we were no better off, for the whole cry upon deck was, *Lord have mercy upon us! all is lost.*

This storm continued (but not with equal violence) 18 days; during which time we lost great numbers of our landmen; and most of the sailors, with continual watching, fell down; insomuch, that the living had not strength left to discharge the ship of the dead; till on the 19th day, having had a very fine night preceding, and being in great hopes that the worst was over, we heard a violent crack at the bottom of the vessel, but from what accident we knew not; so that she went to the bottom, in less than a quarter of an hour.

Fuller and myself, with the master, and two more sailors, who were on deck, being shocked at the stroke, and perceiving her to sink very rapidly, heaved over the boat, and with what little provision and ammunition the shortness of the time would allow us to collect together, we embarked in her, having first called out to all the sick, to inform them of their danger, and that if they were able to reach the boat, they should be received; but not a man stirred, excepting one of my brother officers, who with great difficulty creeping forward, we helped into the boat; and a sailor.

We had shipped a considerable quantity of bread, and salt provision; but our water lying deep, and the ship sinking fast, no one would venture to procure any, lest (in the mean time) the vessel should sink: so that one quarter cask of water was all we took with us.

We might certainly have done better, in the time we had; but not one of us chose to lose sight of the boat, for fear the rest should go without him; nor would the master suffer us to carry any man to it; for he said, if we brought one, why not another? And

then, we should, in his opinion, be guilty of murdering those we left behind; and could we bring them all, the boat would not contain them.

For my part, however just the master's argument might be, it grieved me extremely; but the ship was just going, and we were obliged to shove off from her, lest we should have been sucked down in the eddy. The cries and shrieks of the wretched crew and soldiers, as the water reached them, will never be effaced from my memory; nor had we rowed 30 fathoms from the vessel before we lost all sight of her for ever.

The ship lost, and we being safe in the boat, caused us to look at first upon ourselves as superlatively happy; but a very moderate share of reflection, changed the height of our joys into the depth of despair: for we no sooner began to compare notes, and to fix a kind of limit to the prospect before us, than the master declared that he knew not in what longitude we were, nor could he form the least guess of our latitude; for that he had neglected every kind of observation from the commencement of the storm; nor had we, upon examination, either taken any sea instrument, or even so much as a compass, with us. We had a piece of a sail indeed, which served to cover them who slept; and we had salt provision for a full month; but had not water, at short allowance, for above half the time: and then, should the wind increase to a hard gale, it would be impossible for us to weather it.

Our boat's crew consisted of the master, *Fuller*, myself, Lieutenant *Overton*, and three sailors; but *Fuller*, myself, and two of the sailors only, were fit for exercise; nor did we in the least stint our endeavours: for sometimes we rowed a whole day to one point, sometimes to another, almost distracted at neither the sight of land, nor of any vessel to relieve us.

On the fifth day *Overton* died, and we threw him over board; as also we did the master, and the other black sailor, in the course of a week after.

On the 18th day our water was tilted, and ran very

low; we came to half quarter allowance, having lived very sparingly for some days before. We had eaten our beef salt, to save the expence of water, till it created such a loathing for want of moisture, that we could not bear it in our mouths; and bisket was now our only sustenance. Indeed the captain had given us the hint at first to spare that for our last resort, and it proved good advice to us.

We, one day, hung about six pounds of beef at the stern of the boat, by a cord, in order to soften and freshen it, if possible, by the motion of the water; but it remained not long there, before we observed the boat draw so heavily that we could scarce make her stir; then going to remove the beef, which we judged to be the occasion of it, we drew up a very fine fish, upward of 20 pounds weight, which had with great eagerness swallowed the beef; but it being so large and stubborn, and the cord so strong, it could neither bite it in two, nor disgorge the beef. Thus unexpectedly we procured a variety, which, had we been able to dress, would have been extremely agreeable to us. But as it was, we made several meals of it, with our bread; and this having so much moisture in it, proved a great saving to our water.

On the 22d day, our water-cask was drained, and with tears in our eyes, we shook each other by the hand, and drank (as we verily imagined) our last earthly liquor, it not amounting to more than a gill a-piece. We were then reduced to our own water; but in a few days, we had none of that left; and for two days more lay upon our oars.

We scarce spoke one word all the while; but hung down our heads, as if ashamed of exhibiting our misfortunes. I could perceive my head grow very light, from the hollowness of my stomach, and my fancy roved as extravagantly as in a dream; nor could I scarce persuade myself, but that I was in one: when on a sudden, Fuller jumped up, "I'll be your dupe no longer," said he, "no, the earth, and all that's in it, shall not detain me from paradise.—Come, sweet

inviter, come, take me to my happiness, where plenty lies in store for the hungry soul.—I come—I come.”

This strange harangue of *Fuller* startled us all; but perceiving him about to plunge into the sea, we prevented him; when seeming to recollect himself, as if awaking from his slumber, I began to reason with him upon the heinousness of suicide, urging, that while life subsisted there might be hope: that other men had been reduced to the extremities which we then suffered; and that though some had perished under those severities, yet that others had providentially escaped at the very last gasp; so that we ought not to run into instant destruction.

Poor *Fuller* heard me very patiently; and though he was sensible of what he had been about to do, showed no further resolution of persisting in it, or even ventured an argument in his own justification. But as near as I could imagine by his behaviour, was delirious; for he still seemed to have fixed his mind upon meat and drink where he was going, and talked as rationally as if he had been reasoning from a reality: so that I was fearful of removing to my former seat, lest he should suddenly leap overboard.

We held each a piece of bisket in our hands, and often put it to our mouths; but they were too much parched to prepare it for our swallow; for though we could grind it to a kind of powder, it would have choked us in attempting to force it down; for it lay in our throats like chaff, causing us to cough and vomit till the blood flowed from our stomachs.

I was become so spent that day by sunset, that I had great hopes if I could fall asleep in the night, I should not have strength left ever to awake again; when just as the sun was sinking beneath the horizon, one of the sailors who sat fronting it, started up, and cried, *land, land*.

We were all on tiptoe in a moment to reconnoitre it; he still pointing with his finger, and crying, *land, land*. I then judged him to be in my friend *Fuller's* situation (for I could see nothing like it); but he con-

fidently affirming, that what he saw was land, and conferring upon its appearance with the other sailor, they soon became both of a mind. And then indeed, I imagined that I saw somewhat like a thin blue cloud on the edge of the horizon; but could not conceive it to be any thing else.

But they insisted that it was; and it being so desirable a prospect, more in compliance with their judgment than from any conviction of my own, I clapped my hand to the oar with them; and as boldly we pulled, as if nothing had happened to impair our vigour. But poor *Fuller* was by this time too far gone, either to yield us any assistance, or to partake of our joy.

We should have thought ourselves extremely happy, had it been earlier in the day that we had made this pleasing discovery; for in less than an hour such a mist arose from the water, as prevented our remarking any thing ten yards before us; but not before we had confirmed our discovery beyond a doubt.

Nothing in the world could be more melancholy to us at this juncture, than the absence of light; for though we should labour ever so hard, we were not certain of steering right, there being neither wind nor star to direct us. But yet, to lie by when there was but the least hope of success, would be inexcusable. So that resolving at all events to do our utmost, we alternately plied at the oars, till day began to break.

O, the transport! the joy! the rapture that smiled on every face, at the approach of the day, which delivered to our view the platform of a large country, not a league and a half before us! but our joys were in a great measure allayed by the loss of *Fuller*, who died that night.

Never did willing couriers strain each muscle for victory more anxiously than we plied ours at the oars, thinking each boat's length a mile, till we arrived at our desirable harbour; but upon setting our feet on shore, we were all extacy. We thanked the almighty ruler of the ocean for our preservation. Having moored

the boat, we flew to the herbs which lined the banks of these waters, devouring them like famished cattle broken into fresh pasture; nor did we, to our thinking, ever fare so deliciously in our lives.

Having plentifully moistened our stomachs with the herbs, we were not very anxious for water; nor did we go in search of any till we had got our cargo on shore, and paid the last debt to poor *Fuller*; but as his clothes were too valuable to be committed to the deep, we stripped him, and I made bold with his watch; we sunk the corps by some stones, below low water mark, and divided his apparel; I taking his shirt, neckcloth, and handkerchief for my share.

I was sensibly affected for the loss of *Fuller*; he being one of the best tempered creatures in the world, had read much, was a true friend, and hearty companion; and for courage and cool resolution, almost without an equal. The sailors having long been intimates together, I judged that by his death the balance would be broken between us, and that they would look upon me as an impertinent fellow, should I oppose any opinion of theirs; and that right or wrong, I must be obliged in every thing to conform to their sentiments.

These reflections some time gave me uneasiness: however, I was very cautious not to dissent from any of their reasonable propositions; but on a little closer intimacy with them, I found that my jealousies were groundless, and that we should preserve a good understanding together; for though I avoided all claim to pre-eminence and authority over them, yet they readily consented to my proposals; and of themselves would always consult my opinion, before they undertook any thing; and this method strengthening into custom, not only restrained me from a too rigid maintenance of my own resolves, but enaged me to weigh theirs with the nicest deliberation, and to concur with them in whatever I could not plainly demonstrate to be grossly erroneous; so that we soon lived in the greatest harmony.

The land we were upon, near the shore, was very bare, and seemingly barren: whereas the inland parts presented us with towering woods, and very high grounds; so that the heat of the climate soon drove us thither for shelter, after the search of some river, to allay our thirst.

We had turned our boat upside down, stowed our goods under it, and covered it thick with wet seaweeds, to prevent the influence of the parching sun from splitting its timber, not knowing as yet how long it might be before we should have occasion to make further use of it. Then each of us taking his gun, with all our powder and ball, we directed our course to the uplands. Here we met with such innumerable flights of birds as are not to be conceived; but chiefly of a species we had never before seen; especially a very large creature of the bird-make, walking upon two legs, but without the least feather or down about it, its covering being of long shaggy hair. It had a short thick neck, and bony head, in make like a grey-hound's, with the sharpest and strongest teeth in its mouth, of any creature of its size that I ever saw, and a long tail, very hairy, much like a pig's. It had no wings, or any thing in the place of them; but its feet and legs were very long and large, with sharp claws reverted, and bedded in the flesh like a panther's; but exceedingly strong.

This creature was of prodigious abilities, swift in running, and of the fiercest nature imaginable. They generally went in couples, and never scrupled to attack whatever opposed them, being absolutely devoid of all fear, as was demonstrable from numberless instances, of which I shall have further occasion to mention; and from their affinity to both species, we called them *dog-birds*.

Having, as I said before, fallen among such large flights of birds, most of which were too small to bestow a bullet upon, we picked up some stones; and therewith hammering some of our bullets flat, we cut them into little squares with our knives, and charged

our guns with them; then watching an opportunity, we shot, at two fires, eighteen, about the size of a field-fare. We were not long before we broiled some, and made the first hearty meal we had eaten since the loss of our ship.

Had any person been spectator at this regale, he must have rejoiced at the expressions of our satisfaction; for surely, no creatures ever indulged more, or exhibited greater demonstrations of it, than we did; after which, laying ourselves down at a spring, which we had discovered near us, each drop we took was more refreshing than the richest compounded cordial: but I prevailed with my companions not to make too plentiful a meal, and proposed for each of us to content himself with three of these birds at once, when we should have the like number in reserve for our refreshment; and this being readily agreed to, we pocketed the remaining half of them, till supper time; nor can it be conceived, that any creatures should be so instantly altered for the better, as we perceived ourselves to be, after this meal; our spirits and vigour returned, and the strength we had acquired by it entirely dissipated all past weakness and fatigue.

Being thus in high spirits, our next concern was for some place of safety, to shelter us from the danger and annoyance of the beasts of the country, of which we were sensible there were numbers, from the several voices and cries we had heard in different parts of it; but not being able to suit ourselves that day, we were obliged to take our lodging among the woods in the upper lands, sitting round a large tree, with our backs against it, the more readily to observe whatever should approach us from either quarter.

It was our good fortune to pass the night without other inconvenience to ourselves, than being often put under terror of some savage creatures, whose howling, roaring, and other noises, we frequently heard in the wood; and once very near us, when some beast was in pursuit of another, so close to us that we could hear them brush through a brake at a small distance, and afterward see them by moonlight through the

trees, though not distinctly enough to particularize what species they were.

It is not to be supposed that we could settle to sleep under such circumstances, nor indeed did we close our eyes till morning; when being very heavy with watching, we slept by turns, under the guard of one of us, which proved an agreeable refreshment; and no sooner were we all stirring, than we set forward again, to examine further into the country: when after some hours travel in the wood-lands, we beheld before us an immense valley of many miles diameter, wholly covered with underwood and bushes; and almost at the opposite side of it ran a large river. We were now at a loss, whether we should venture into this valley, which we could not but conclude to be a receptacle for the wild beasts; or whether we should pursue some other course through the wood; when it was resolved, that as the wood seemed to rise very sharp to our right, we would attain to the height of it, where possibly we might command such a prospect of the country, as might direct us in our future travels.

From the point of this hill we could plainly discover, that all that part of the country which we had before traversed and viewed, was only part of an oblong neck of land, which pushed much forwarder than the main land into the sea, and was encompassed with it, except to the south-west, where it joined the main.

Here arose another debate, whether we should fix our chief settlement on this eminence, where we could have so great a command of the sea three ways; or whether we should retire more into the continent, as I may call it, and seek a refuge there. However, as I seemed inclinable to search farther, though I admitted that our sole hope of deliverance must depend upon the waters, from such shipping, as might pass within view of our signals, the sailors agreed with me, that at last we could but return where we were, in case nothing better offered.

This being settled, we quitted the wood, and made the best of our way to the main land. In this journey we had a proof of the courage and abilities of the dog-

birds I have before mentioned; for passing by the skirt of a large clump of bushes, we saw two of them at no great distance. We smote upon the bushes with our guns, in order to frighten them away from the course we were in; but they took no manner of notice of the rustle we made, till having advanced much nearer to them, we again smote the bushes, when out leaped a beast of the tiger kind, as near as we could guess, and scoured across a plain to our right; but no sooner had the birds a view of him, than setting up a kind of a barking howl, they pursued it with amazing velocity.

The plain laying open to our view for some distance, gave us a prospect of the whole race; but though the creature almost flew to avoid them, yet they caught him in a furlong's running, mounted its back, fixed their talons into its body, and brought it down; and before we could reach them, though we followed with all our speed, they had killed and eaten great part of it; nor moved they in the least from the carcass, upon our approach, till we were advanced within a few paces of them; when one of them turning its head, and grinning like a dog at us, occasioned us to halt; but they did not desert their prey, until observing us to stir again, one of them made at one of the sailors; and if I had not that instant shot him, would undoubtedly have torn him to pieces.

We expected that the other would have fled upon the report of our gun; but instead of that, it quitted the dead beast, and ran open-mouthed at me, seizing my gun which I held out against him, and with the violence of his fury would have disarmed me of it, had not the other sailor shot him likewise.

The three creatures being now dead, we had leisure to examine them distinctly; and first we surveyed the birds, which were so formed as I have before described: as for the beast, it seemed such a prodigious strong creature, when we had looked over its parts, that we were amazed it had not defended itself against the birds; for upon a scrutiny into their apparent capa-

cities, one would judge it had been able to have coped with several of them.

Having completed our survey, we concluded that the tiger-like beast would prove the most eatable morsel. We first slayed him; but his flesh not appearing so inviting as we expected, we went to work upon the birds, which under a much fouler covering produced us flesh as white as the finest veal I ever saw, nor was it the least inferior in taste to the nicest turkey.

We were very curious both in slaying off and preserving all the skins, expecting benefit from them, in several capacities; so that having packed up a good parcel of the birds' flesh in one of them, we proceeded on our journey to the continent.

After some days' travel, we arrived at a hill, or rather a rock, being all of stone, not the least blade of grass, or other herb whatever, growing upon it; the ascent not being very steep, but much broken and uneven. At about half way to the top, on one side of it, we passed by a large crag, with a small hole at the bottom of it, so big that a man lying along might just creep horizontally into it. The two sailors, who were before me, had passed without taking any notice of it; but I casting my eye that way, and imagining its entrance not to penetrate far, stooped down to see whether I could perceive the extremity of it or not; but it was so dark that I could but just see the opening. I then thrust in my gun, to satisfy myself of its dimensions; but, by what accident it happened I know not, as I was moving it to and fro, it went off, giving a violent jar to my hand.

This unexpected noise brought my companions back to me, to know what was the matter; and whilst I was beginning to rehearse the accident, and was pointing to the hole, I observed the gun (which I dropped from my hand in its firing) to move; then fixing my eye more narrowly upon it, it stirred again pretty much. This causing no small terror, either to me or my companions, we retreated from the mouth of the hole for a few paces, and in less than a minute per-

ceived the paws of some large beast moving forward out of the cavity, and instantly followed the nose and head of a lion; but he proceeded very slowly; and his eyes looking dim, and almost sunk into their hollow sockets, though my companions had each of them their guns at their shoulders ready for firing; yet, as he appeared farther and farther to our view, he looked so weak and so like a skeleton, that it seemed too unmanly an action to distress so worn out an object; for which reason, though they stood prepared, they resolved not to fire at him unless he first assaulted us. At length the poor creature having with much difficulty disengaged himself from the hole, instead of making toward us, turned about the contrary way, moving off very stiff, and so feebly that he tottered as he went. We followed him; but before he had arrived quite at the bottom, he fell, unable to rise again.

We had no sooner dislodged this beast, than I was apprehensive that the cave might be more capacious within than we were aware of, and possibly might prove a good shelter to us in the night season. This I hinted to the sailors, who were for examining it immediately; but could not contrive how to get a light in with them; for without, they had no great inclination to venture. Says *Joe Horn* (for that was the name of one, and *Samuel Peck* of the other); "It is not impossible, but that this may be a common receptacle for these sort of creatures, and here may be many more of them now in it, for aught we know." *Sam* seemed to be of the same opinion, till I told them, that if the smell of the powder and the noise of the gun were so terrible as to rouse a dying lion, and make him exert his feeble efforts, they might rest assured, that if there had been any more living beasts in the cell, they would have been the first at making their way into the air; adding, that it was my opinion, that the poor creature had only taken refuge there by way of sepulchre, as it was natural for most magnanimous creatures to retire at the approach of death, and fall in private.

This argument brought them to my way of thinking; so that now the absence of light was the only hindrance of our entering the cave immediately: but whilst we were hesitating on this, says *Sam*, "How if you should have shot the lion, and that should have occasioned his quitting his den? Then there may still remain more behind, who being unhurt, had not the same cause for removal as this had."—"Sam," said I, "it is not impossible but my ball may have hit him; but you cannot say that I starved him too; for that is plainly his case, being nothing but skin and bone; however, we will soon clear that doubt, by searching whether he is wounded. You see he is fallen; and if not dead already, which I little fear, we will dispatch and slay him; for I cannot relinquish the hopes I have of his lodging for ourselves."

We ascended to the spot where the lion lay, and surrounding him, found him quite dead, and stretched out; but having skinned him, not the least wound was to be discovered; then spreading out his hide to dry in the sun, we returned to the cell, anxious for the knowledge of its inward dimensions.

We collected some of the most inflammable wood near the foot of the hill, having conveyed which to the mouth of the hole, and burnt some large pieces to fire-brands, *Joe Horn*, who offered to enter first, directed *Sam* immediately to follow him; when, if he called out to be released, *Sam* was to hold fast by his ancles, and I was to pull at *Sam's* till they were both out again. Thus having concerted our measures, *Joe* crept in on his belly, with a lighted brand in one hand, and several small sticks in the other, that when he saw fit, by applying the sticks to the brand's end, he might blow it into a flame, just sufficient to look about the place, and so return.

Joe had just forced in his whole length, and *Sam* had lain down to follow him; but before he had entered his head and shoulders into the hole, *Joe's* legs and feet were both out of his reach. *Sam* upon this raising up his head, turned as pale as death. "Alas?" said

he, "*Joe* is devoured, I fear."—"How so?" replied I. "Why," said he, "he is dragged in all on a sudden; and I can feel nothing of him; but there is an horrible growling within side."—"Try again," said I, "we should have heard him cry out, had he met with any thing to annoy him." *Sam* answered, that he durst go no farther; for that by the noise he heard within, *Joe* was certainly destroyed.

I must confess, though I had not heard the least noise, I was not without dread that *Sam's* fears were too true, especially from the growling he reported to have heard within; but that the poor fellow might not be lost for want of assistance, as I had encouraged *Sam* to follow him, I could do not less, upon his refusal, than take the post myself. I laid myself along for that purpose; but resolved to venture in no farther than I could fairly feel my legs without side of the hole.

I had scarce got more than my head and shoulders under the stone, before I perceived a fire at some distance before me, and *Joe* walking about by it; but I could not see higher than his knees, till I had gotten in my whole length; and then I perceived, that at little more than a man's length from the entrance, the cell widened into a large cavity, being a commodious habitation for a dozen people. *Joe* was very glad to see me there; but the smoke, which almost suffocated us, prevented our tarrying longer than just to search every corner of it, to see if it contained any thing offensive; and finding it did not, we returned again to *Sam*, who by this time had given us both over for lost; but we joked him out of the growling he had heard, and laughed him into good humour again.

This safe retreat, as we judged it, administered ample content to our minds; as nothing could possibly come at us, but from the passage we went in at, where our guns would prove a sure defence; but we sorely lamented the impossibility of admitting any light, save what little would penetrate at the bottom.

We were so eager upon preparing our new apartment, that having with a bundle of twigs swept it very clean, and tied up a sort of faggot, of the size of the

hole's mouth, to draw in after us, by way of prevention to the approach of any thing from without, we that night spread our skins upon the floor, and took up our lodging in it.

It may be imagined, that in our new lodging we could be under no apprehensions from the wild creatures; and that we should have indulged ourselves in sleep without fear; but I can assure my readers, that we could not at once divest ourselves of our accustomed watchfulness; though upon starting up we were soon composed again, yet our sleep was so interrupted and confused for many nights, that it required time to bring our minds to a state of tranquillity.

We had now four skins for our bed; and were particularly cautious of stopping up the hole of our cell with the faggot, as well at our departure from it as while we reposed in it; lest in our absence some unwelcome guest should take possession of it; nor did we stir far from the foot of the hill; until having observed that firing often thereabout had caused a scarcity of provision, we came to a resolution of penetrating further up the country, in search of a fresh supply.

In this journey the first creature we saw was a beast of the stag kind; which ran at a small distance before us, but passed by so swiftly, that we had but just a glimpse of it between the bushes; so stepping forward to the skirt of the shrubs, we viewed its flight; and close at its heels followed one of the dog-birds.

No sooner could we observe the creature than we perceived that the dog-bird had seized upon the haunch with his talons, while with his teeth he was devouring the flesh of the beast; the misery and anguish whereof drove the poor fugitive to such extremity, that he fell under the severity of his torments; but not before the other bird had mounted itself likewise on the back of the beast.

We pursued the game with our utmost speed, undetermined whether we should shoot the birds, or suffer them to gorge upon the stag, and come in for the remainder. At length, we resolved upon the latter; and being about 100 yards from them, we sat down to

rest ourselves; and wait. The birds having eaten their fill, retired to the woods; whereby we became possessed of their leavings.

Having no means of preserving our meat above two days in this hot country, we went out again in search of game, taking the same route as before. We had travelled a whole morning without the least prospect of a shot, when coming close by a growth of thick bushes, on our return, we heard a growling (but could see nothing); which still increasing, we drew up fronting the bushes; and presented our pieces in readiness. It was not long before we observed the shrubs to shake; and the growling still continuing, a dog-bird presented itself, with his head pushing through the brake. *Sam*, who fronted the place, judged it more prudent to fire before he was disengaged from the surrounding brushwood, than to give him the opportunity of assaulting us (having so often seen their ferocity, we all began to dread them exceedingly); so he shot him dead; but though the creature never stirred more, yet we heard a small shrill cry continuing within the cover, which still retained us on the defensive, lest more of them should be concealed there, and rush upon us unprepared; till having watched for some time, and hearing no more stir in the bushes, but the cry still proceeding as of a young puppy, very faint, I was resolved to search the cause of it; then placing *Joe* and *Sam* properly for assisting me, in case of danger, I moved forward into the thicket, under direction of the cry; when, upon a large parcel of dried leaves, I found a litter of the dog-birds, very small, scrabbling over one another. It immediately occurring to me, that if we could but breed up these creatures tame, they might be of great use to us, I called to my companions, informing them what I had found. "Knock them on the head!" cried they; but I begged them to excuse me; "for," said I, "if we can but breed them up tame like dogs, on failure of our ammunition they may prove the means of supplying us with provision for the remainder of our lives."

I found three, and put them into the flap of my coat; but what surprized me most, was, that at the bottom of the nest, when I took out the last one, I discovered a real egg, a little bigger than that of a goose, which was plainly an egg of the dog-bird, that had not been vivified; so that I was now satisfied they were an oviparous animal, though I had before suspected them to be viviparous.

Having prevailed with my comrades to try the experiment of taming these animals, our greatest care now was, how we should nourish up our tender family. I drew the old one from the bush; and turning it on its back, observed six dugs under its belly; so that I was certain it suckled its young ones; but what to do for milk for them, we could not tell.

Having killed the creature, we reserved the flesh for ourselves; and when we had dressed a part of it, I chewed it as fine as possible, and tried my young ones with it; but from the moment that I put it into their mouths, they never ceased shaking their heads, till they had discharged it all, not enduring the taste of it; nor indeed was I able to urge them to a second trial, it was so contrary to my own sentiments for the young brood to feed on their own dam. Having nothing else to give them, and it being near the close of day, I was under great concern, lest my little flock should all be dead by morning through want.

But as we were within half a mile of the cell, seeing a flight of birds, I inquired whose gun was charged with shot (for we always carried two charged with square shot); when *Joe* replying that his was, I desired him to fetch down some of the birds for me, which he did. These I carried home; and having dressed them and chewed the flesh as before, the little creatures all swallowed it down very greedily; from whence I conceived great hopes that I should be able to rear them; nor did they desist, till they had each almost eaten an whole bird. As soon as I had given them their suppers, I made them a bed of leaves in one corner of our cell, where I inclosed them with

stones and sticks, to keep them close together, and from that time forward we never killed either bird or beast, but we reserved them their share of it.

These creatures, when we first took them, were not bigger than a gosling of a week old; and, indeed had not been many days hatched; but their growth was very surprizing; for in about two months time, the least of them weighed full 14lb.

Our constantly handling and feeding them made them so gentle, that as soon as they were able they ran after us like dogs; nor were they in the least afraid of our guns, having been daily used to the noise; for whenever we took a long walk, each of us carried one with him, till they grew too big; and then, wherever we went, they followed us. We every now and then gave them a piece of flesh as we travelled; and whenever we shot any thing we provided amply for them out of it; for it was not long before they would regularly watch for our shooting, that they might partake of the game.

In short, their constant attendance upon us, and the kind treatment we gave them, rendered them exceeding tame, they readily comprehending every sign, word, and motion of ours: for at night, we lay upon our skins cheek by jole, and were all day inseparable companions; nay, my fellow-travellers began to be as fond of them as myself; so that for distinction sake, we gave them names, as soon as their sexes could be discovered.

There being one male and two females, I desired to have the naming of one of the females, which was agreed to. "Now," said I, "as there hath yet been but one of that sex in the world whose memory I have more than ordinary value for, and her name was *Sarah*, I will call this (pointing to it) by the name of *Sally*, as I used to call her."—"A good hint," says *Sam*: "and I'll name the other hen from my mistress, who lives with Mother *Shove*, in *Wapping*, that I will, and it shall be *Black Bessy*." *Joe* then taking the cock by the ears, "Old friend," says he, "if thou hadst been a hen, I

could have matched thee to an hair with the name of the finest girl in christendom; but that thou mayest put me in mind of an old benefactor, who has given me many a pennyworth of gingerbread, and pocketful of marbles, thou, from henceforth, shalt be *David*." Thus having given them all names, by applying them constantly to the individuals, they soon discovered who we meant; and each of us feeding and fondling his own choice, they severally, more and more, attached themselves to us; and when they arrived to about the age of six or eight months, we were under no more apprehension of mischief from the beasts of the country, travel where we would; for every kind of creature avoided them. They would attack and destroy a lion, or a tiger; nor could we ever observe, that any beast whatsoever would turn upon them; and as they ran exceeding swift, they were no sooner in reach of what they pursued, than by a violent spring they either alighted on his back, or hung to his buttock (for wherever they touched they stuck; when with teeth and talons, digging and tearing away, they could bring the stoutest living creature to the ground; and were all under so true a discipline, that they would seize on any thing we encouraged them to attack, and stop at our call, even in full pursuit.)

Our cell, secure and defensible as it was against all danger from without, was not however so desirable as it had been, since our dog-birds were grown up, they being now as an unconquerable guard around us; which consideration brought us to the resolution of deserting our quarters, at least for a time, and of taking a direct walk, 40 or 50 miles, as we should meet with accommodation; when, finding nothing more agreeable, we could but return again to our old habitations.

It was about the conclusion of our second year, that we set forward with a body of seventeen of us, men and birds; and as the inward parts of the country abounded most with living animals, we seldom travelled with more than a meal's provision; but usually



*The Dogbirds attack & kill a Wild Bull, who was advancing to gore
Bingfield & his Companions.*

Miss Millan

23 JY 59

illec
nily
rriv
inc
at th
enter
dista
waro
up t
to h
low,
halt
tow
him
life;
thei
a fe
T
was
stan
the
cee
sift
selv
hac
see
the
try
at
fo
hu
sol
th
pe
ed
fe
co
w
in

filled a beast a day, for the support of our whole family. After several days march in this manner, we arrived at a large open lawn, where were several wild fowls feeding. We were determined to try our birds at this new game; when very opportunely, as we were entering it, an heifer presented itself to us, at a small distance. Sam and I were then about 50 paces forwarder than Joe and the birds, who generally brought up the rear. The beast, upon a sight so unaccustomed to him as we were, tossed about his head, gave a loud low, and was preparing to attack us. We made an halt, called up our birds, and (with a cheer) pointing toward the creature, away sprung three of them at him in an instant. The beast turning tail, ran for his life; but his course was very short, ere they had made their stands upon him, when faltering in his speed, in a few minutes more he fell.

The rest of the cattle having been spectators of what was going forward, all fled with precipitation, and instantly disappeared. As soon as we could arrive at the slaughtered beast, calling off our birds, we proceeded to cut his throat, being by this time past resistance; when having taken what we wanted for ourselves, we cut the remainder into slices, till our birds had made a good meal; and it was very pleasant to see them all standing at one distance, in a circle round the carcass, each watching for his turn to be served.

We had now travelled above 60 miles up the country; when one day, in crossing a hill, we saw the sea at about ten miles to our right. This prospect was so pleasing to us, that in hopes of meeting some of the human species as the reward of our travels, we resolved upon descending to it, in case fortune should throw any vessel into our way. As we had no prospect of reaching the shore that night, we lay at the edge of a small wood, with our guard round us, and set forward again the next morning.

We were now arrived within half a mile of the coast, with the shore full in view, when we thought we discovered somewhat like a long row of boats, lying close by each other, just within the water's edge;

which seeming to multiply to our view, upon a nearer approach, we endeavoured to conjecture (if they were boats) what could be the meaning of such a number of them being there. Not chusing to throw ourselves into danger, we judged it adviseable to remove to an eminence still nearer to the objects, but somewhat oblique, where, if we should not meet with encouragement to proceed, we might secure a safe retreat, before we should be discovered. With this view we mounted the rising ground, from whence we plainly discovered many boats, to the number of three-score or more; when not being able to discern any large vessel, or any more land, we were of opinion, that they must belong to some fishermen, or people dealing on the waters, and that they were inhabitants of the country; though we had not as yet discovered their settlement.

Our perplexity at this sight increasing, we determined not to ascend nearer the water; but remain where we were, and from thence make our remarks, till we should be able to give some opinion as to their owners, and their designs, in case they should belong to any who were landed on our coast; which seemed to be most likely, from the regular order in which they were disposed. We had scarce formed this resolution, when not far from the base of the hill we discovered a smoke ascending, which by degrees grew more strong and black; but there being some under-wood and trees toward the bottom of the hill, as also several straggling trees interspersed on the sides of it, we could not easily conjecture the occasion of it. Whilst we were ruminating upon this unusual appearance, we heard a loud shout, and presently another; and not many minutes after the second, we perceived a large number of naked persons, of black complexion, advancing from the smoke toward a small plain, on which there stood one large spreading tree, almost in the middle of it.

We were so little above them, that though we could conceal ourselves behind the wood, yet we could plainly discern every action of theirs; when by the

course they took, and their method of behaviour, they appeared to be conducting some one with a rope about his neck toward the great tree. We suspected that they were going to hang him up, for some crime or other that he had committed; but they were no sooner advanced to the tree, than they placed the malefactor with his back to it, tying him round the neck fast to it with a cord; then all having bows and arrows in their hands, they retired for about 40 or 50 paces nearer to us, and drew up fronting the confined person; and each, in order, shot at the poor sufferer. The first two or three arrows went beyond the tree; the next entered the tree above the head of the victim; but the succeeding one piercing his body, such a shout ensued, attended with leaping and dancing, in such antic postures, as one would scarce imagine to have proceeded from persons of the human species.

Their mimicry ended, they began their shooting again, when each arrow that entered the unhappy object of their aim recalled their diabolical rejoicings; till having all shot round, they ran up to the tree; where untying the wretched creature, his corpse dropped to the earth; six or eight of them seizing on it, returned with it to the hill, where the smoke was, with violent mirth and shouting, the rest of the company confusedly following.

It proved no small uneasiness to us, to be deprived of all sight of their further proceedings by the interposing wood; nor could we (upon a repetition of their shouting) refrain from creeping so low as to become spectators of what was then in agitation; but before we could properly dispose ourselves for that purpose, they had hung up all the limbs of the poor creature upon a long transverse pole, supported by two forked sticks, just over a large fire.

Expecting that the fire would every moment be increased to consume them to ashes, we waited for its execution: when, no sooner were the divided members reduced to a standard for their palates, than they devoured them as greedily as a bear would horse-flesh.

Our stomachs sickened at the repast; nor could we endure to be longer spectators of this inhuman banquet. We thought to have stolen away from all further sight of those bestial creatures; but had not ascended far, before another shout recalled our attention; when looking behind us, we beheld another victim, a white person, whom they were leading to the plain, in manner of the first, for slaughter.

My anger so arose at this sight, that I could scarcely contain myself; nor was I to be restrained by any remonstrances of my companions, from appearing as the champion of this condemned creature. "What!" said I, "my friends, shall we stand here idle spectators of the death of a white person, and about to become a sacrifice at the pleasure of these people, who delight themselves with human carnage? Nay, perhaps only to appease some idol deity; and shall we not, at the hazard of our lives, assist and release him? What have we to fear from their bows and arrows? Our guns most likely will strike such terror into them, as may enable us to gain an easy conquest, and release yon miserable condemned captive."

I could perceive no great readiness either in *Joe*, or *Sam*, to second me; but the poor prisoner moving forward, and my indignation boiling into rage at the prospect; I declared, that live or die, I would endeavour to prevent this horrid scene from being put into execution; "nor do I fear," said I, "but that *Sally* (my bird), and the rest of her kind, will stand by me though you should not; down I am determined to venture, let what will prove the consequence."

Calling to my aid *Sally*, and the rest of the dog-birds I set forward at a quick pace, which my comrades observing, and that I seemed resolute, they were soon at my heels, promising either to bring me off victorious or fall by me. I thanked their friendship, and being thus seconded, moved on with more intrepidity; till perceiving that the blacks had reached the fatal tree I began to run; but they were drawing up for the slaughter, before I could possibly come up with them.

In order, therefore, that I might at least divert their purpose for a while, I halloped out as loud as I possibly could; when instantly, they all facing us, began to prepare for action. But being loath to risk a shot, till I was within proper distance, and near enough to avail myself of it, I wheeled about to get between them and the prisoner, that I might loose the victim, when I should first let go my birds at the murderers, lest they should mistake their direction, and destroy the prisoner.

I had never yet had any opportunity of discovering whether our birds would seize the human species, and much doubted whether they would or not, being so constantly used to us; but having now so fair an opportunity for trial, I called them all round me; and giving the usual cheer to spirit them to the onset, I presented my gun at the blacks; when springing forward like lightning, they made but few steps before they fixed their talons on some of them. Their extravagant cries and bloody appearance set the rest to their heels, who running for life to their boats, left us masters of the field. Immediately upon their flight, I called off the birds, suffering the wounded men to get off if they could, after the rest; then turning to the poor confined man (as I thought him) what a shock did I receive, at the sight of my dearest *Sally Moreton*, bound stark naked to the fatal tree! The lovely creature, at the instant recollecting me, intreated me to stop. "O, Mr. *Bingfield*," said she, "let me die, rather than become a spectacle to you in this condition!" Her modesty turned me round in confusion, with my back to her; when perceiving *Joe* and *Sam* were making what haste they could up to us, I made signs to them to keep back; whilst I taking off my coat, and holding it up before my face, walked up to *Sally*, and delivered it to her; then stepping behind the tree, I cut the cord, and set her at liberty.

Never were poor creatures under more confusion, between joy, shame, and astonishment, than *Sally* and

I; for by this time she had clothed herself in my coat, which being too big for her, I tied it about her with the cord. I put my hat upon her head; and was pulling off my shoes and stockings to defend her feet from the ground; but she insisting upon not using them if I did, and assuring me that she had worn none for above two years, I desisted from urging her any further. We then sat down under the tree. Embracing her over and over, we had each too many questions labouring for utterance, to know to which to give the preference; but still clasping her to my heart, I could have retained her there for ever.

Sam and *Joe*, who as yet knew not whom I had met with, were not a little amazed at the tokens of love we expressed for each other. So I told *Sally*, that I would leave her a moment, to acquaint my companions of my good fortune, that they might not think our behaviour strange. She with reluctance consented to my departure, intreating me not to be out of sight to relieve her, in case the king and his nobles should return again. I could not imagine what she meant by the king and nobles; for my eyes much deceived me, or I had beheld no such persons, or indeed any other than a naked rabble of blacks; but it was no time to settle that point now; so I went to my associates with a smiling countenance:—

“Gentlemen,” said I, “I wish from my soul, that I could greet each of you as the happy man, which I now find myself exalted to.”—“What is the matter?” says *Joe*. “By your hugging and kissing, one would imagine that you had recovered your *Sally*, instead of a condemned criminal.”—“O *Joe*!” replied I, “there are both in that person; there is all that I have ever coveted in life. It is my *Sally* herself.”—“Impossible,” says *Sam*. “Identically the same,” said I; “and that you might not form a prejudice from our behaviour, I just stepped to acquaint you of it.”—“How the devil came she here?” says *Joe*. “That,” replied I, “is more than I am yet apprized of. Come, let us go together, for I much question

whether it may be proper to remain long here, for fear of the return of these savages in the night; as you may depend upon it, they will seek revenge, and murder us, if possible."

Judging this to be wholesome advice, we all set forward to *Sally*, to whom I introduced them, and they saluted her; then we agreed to go to the plains, beyond the last hill that we came over, where one of us should watch all night, while the rest slept; not doubting but that if we could discover the blacks ever so little before they came up with us, our dog-birds would again disperse them.

We chose the middle of the plain to repose in, with the birds about us; where arriving in full day, we dressed some meat; and having supped thereon, intreated *Sally* to favour us with the occasion of her leaving *England*, and an account of what had befallen her since; particularly, what had been the occasion of her being brought thither.

"Mr. *Bingfield*," says *Sally*, "your friends and you must not expect, in what I am about to deliver, a regularly formed narrative of the occurrences which have happened to me since I had the happiness of seeing you last; for the fluctuation of my circumstances, and the distresses I have suffered, have not only destroyed my peace, but almost distracted my brain to such a degree, that I can scarce form any progressive plan of my misfortunes to proceed upon: but so far as I am at present able to recollect, it is this:—

"My aunt, with whom I had long resided, suspecting the intimacy which at that time subsisted between you and me, had used her utmost endeavours to prevent its completion by matrimony; but perceiving that her remonstrances carried but little weight with them in my esteem, she having received an invitation from an uncle of mine, who then lived, and for many years had resided at *Surat*, in *India*, for me to come over to him, where he doubted not of marrying me to some rich factor, in a short time: my aunt, I say, unknown to me, made proper preparations for my voyage thither, hiring a maid-servant to attend me;

and upon pretence of a visit to a captain lately arrived from her brother, took me and the young woman on board with her. We were very handsomely entertained there; and my aunt pretending some private business with the captain, desired me to wait in the cabin till she had communicated it to him, when she would return again; but I never saw her from that time to this. I waited with great impatience for my aunt's return; and expressing some uneasiness upon that account to the young woman, who by this time was come into the cabin to me; she assured me, that my aunt was gone off to *London*; that the ship was then under sail, and that herself had been hired to attend me to the *Indies*; thinking, as she pretended, that I had been apprized of the voyage.

"I too late became sensible of the trick; but my greatest grief was, that I could have no opportunity of informing you, Sir, of my destination: for whenever I required pen, ink, and paper of the captain, I was sure to be put off with some trifling excuse or other, till we were out at sea, and they could be of no further benefit to me.

"My melancholy grew so strong upon me, and my poor maid's compassion arose to such an height, that she ingenuously confessed she was set as a spy over me, and with tears begging my pardon, offered every thing in her power for my relief; but alas! it was too late. We concerted together, that when we should touch the *Canaries*, I should feign myself so very bad, that she would inform the captain of the absolute necessity there was for my going on shore for my recovery; where, when we were once landed, we hoped the people of the country would assist us in restraining the captain from compelling us on board again, contrary to our own inclinations; and from thence, I purposed either to procure shipping for *England*, or to give you advice of my situation. But every scheme proved fruitless; for the captain on our arrival there refused to land us; and staying but four days, we set sail again.

"I took this disappointment so to heart, that I

came to the fatal resolution of throwing myself overboard, and had certainly effected it had not a nail on which my petticoat caught prevented and hindered my fall, till assistance came to save me. I was after this so strictly watched, that any future attempt of that kind became impracticable. I therefore concluded upon starving myself to death, nay, would have perfected what I had begun, but for a terrible storm that fell on us with such impetuosity, that not a single man on board ever imagined we should be able to weather it. In 24 hours time it drove us upon the African shore, where the ship was dashed to pieces against a rock, from which the savage inhabitants of the country removed us in their little vessels, and made us all prisoners.

"I was then in daily expectation of receiving death from the natives' cruelty; but alas! I was reserved for harder fate: for I had not been longer than six days on shore, before I was driven above 50 miles up the country, to the king's court, together with my maid, and clapped into safe custody, with a vast number of his black women, and two more whites; where we were attended with such submission, that had we been queens, no greater deference could have been paid to us, according to the custom of that nation.

"The king being upon the commencement of a war, set out with his court the day after my arrival; so that I did but just see him before his departure; and really for a black, he was a well proportioned and comely person. He gave very particular orders for my safe keeping and accommodation till his return, which proved to be about 15 months afterward, when he entered his city victorious, with a vast train of prisoners of the conquered nation.

"Soon after his arrival, a great number of these prisoners were tied two and two together, and escorted to distant parts to be sold; but many others were reserved for a grand festival, which was proclaimed in commemoration of the victory.

"To this festival the greatest part of the nation re-

sorting, above 60 of the miserable wretches were murdered under the very walls of my lodging, by way of treat to the populace, for three days together; the sight of which inhuman barbarity gave me such a disrelish to the monarch, who entertained himself with the rest on this general carnage, that from that instant I could neither behold him, or any one of his subjects, in any other light than as beasts of prey, my aversion being so heightened against them.

“No sooner was this bloody feast ended, and the town composed again, but myself and maid were ushered in before his majesty, when his behaviour to us was so beastly, that I even abominated him more than ever; and we positively refusing to prostitute ourselves to his embraces, and obstinately persisting in it, he ordered us back to our prison, there to undergo such severe tortures as his women, without the least remorse or pity, executed upon us. These were so exquisite, that at last my maid, spent with her torments, and despairing of their removal, yielded to his demands; but all that he could devise to afflict me with, rather rendered me more stubborn than in the least wrought my compliance; till by habit, and from the constant expectation of their return and continuance, I became so familiarized to my sufferings, as to conceive them less grievous to me; nor had I other hope left than that time would wear me out under them.

“During the pressure of those calamities, his majesty met with the frequent mortification of my refusal of his passion; which gratification of my obstinacy was the greatest comfort I was then capable of enjoying; till at length my constancy, even in the extremity of my persecution, procured me a friend in the unhappy eunuch, who was this morning executed before me; who commiserating my hardships, offered his assistance in furthering my escape, himself proposing to be my guide and conductor in it. This being such an offer as was by no means to be withstood, I closed with it; and at night he locked all the

other women into their several apartments as usual; but leaving me at large, I met him at an appointed rendezvous, from whence we fled, with what speed we were able, toward the mountains.

“It happened, as I hitherto thought most unluckily to me (though the event has proved so contrary), that the very morning of our departure, the king not having rested well in the night, ordered me to his chamber, with full resolution of forcing me to his desires; but neither myself or *Ulda*, my keeper, were to be found, after diligent search to no purpose. His majesty, enraged at the report, summoned his court, and gave strict orders for scouring the country, with injunction to bring us before him, dead or alive. Nothing less than a miracle could screen us from those vigilant eyes who were upon the hunt for us; so that before the evening of the ensuing day, a party overtook and brought us back to the king.

“We were confined in separate holds for some days, till the king had determined on our sentence; when at length he resolved that, according to annual custom, he with his nobles would feast upon us on this coast, instead of two others, who had been many months kept fattening for that purpose; and accordingly we were crammed with the very best of every eatable that the country could afford, for about six weeks before the destined day of our slaughter.

“Though I have hinted at extravagant severities inflicted upon me, yet they were all as nothing to this one misery of being crammed for killing; for as it is scarce to be believed, that any one should officiously contribute to his enemy's enjoyment, by enriching his own flesh for their repast; so the little inclination every one has to that exercise, would rather waste him than increase his fleshy substance, did not the cruel officer, to whom that post is allotted, attend with his instruments of torture to enforce his commands; for upon the sufferer's refusal to admit the quantity appropriated for his use, this vile practitioner of barbarity puts the finger, the wrist, or other joint,

into a sort of screw, till the pain obliges the patient to gape open his mouth; when putting in what he thinks proper, the instrument is again screwed harder and harder, till he swallows it; and this the base agent repeats as long as he pleases, and sometimes (if the suffering party thrives not) even till he almost bursts.

"It is astonishing how some of the blacks themselves, appointed to this sort of death, will of their own accord feed beyond the call of nature, merely to avoid this torture by force; and will grow extremely fat in a short time by it, going to death with all the alacrity imaginable.

"After this manner was I used many times, for refusing my allowance, when I could not possibly submit to receive any more; but perceiving that those cruelties would not end my life, for the ease of my limbs I complied with eating whatever I possibly could, and grew surprisingly fleshy, for the time I had been in feeding.

"At length, the day being come, the king and his nobles met at the water-side, when each stepping into his boat, we were placed in two others, and drawn along with cords by those who preceded us; for the custom generally is, that the king and nobles first sacrifice on this land two victims to render their gods propitious; and some days after they have been to break the way, the people flock from all quarters, with several other prisoners, for themselves to feast on; so that there are a vast number more expected here in a little time.

"The method of sacrificing us, you possibly might have observed in the death of the eunuch, who suffered just before I was brought to the tree; and if your humanity had not interposed, before this time I myself had been broiled and eaten, as that poor creature was, for their entertainment. But I am now amazed to reflect, with what a constancy I persevered so long as I did, and with what cheerfulness I went to the tree, in expectation of my final deliverance; for I had already been such a sufferer, that what was

to succeed shocked me not in the least, but rather inspired me with a desire of having an end put to my afflictions.

"Thus," said she, "hath Providence at length, by its own devised means, not only extricated me from death, but made you the agreeable instrument of my relief. Meeting with you, Sir, so unexpectedly, recompences me for all my past hardships, and at the same time lays me under every obligation toward my benefactors. But it begins to be time for me to turn my inquiries toward your life, and to learn by what means you have been conveyed to this desolate country."

At *Sally's* request, I began my story, from the time of her leaving me, with my uneasiness for the loss of her; proceeding to my embarkation for *Africa*, our shipwreck, and narrow escape to this country, with the means and methods by which we had hitherto preserved ourselves. Then calling *Sally, Sally*, the lady wondered what I meant; when my dog-bird coming and fawning upon me, I told her, that that poor creature had in her absence been her representative; that I had named it after her, that not only her beloved name might ever be passing over my tongue, but sounding in my ears, for their gratification.

The lovely *Sally* glowed with delight, upon perceiving herself still adored with such sincerity; and calling the creature, *namesake*, made very much of her; assuring me, that whatever had contributed to preserve the remembrance of her alive in my breast, would always be esteemed by her; and that she might still have a further interest in her namesake, begged that she might share with me the right and property to poor *Sally*.

We were now about to set our watch, when we men drew lots who should take the first turn; our nights at that time were about equal with our days. The first turn fell upon *Joe*; the second on myself, and the third on *Sam*; so that *Joe* rose up to patrol with his gun on his shoulder, as centinel; but I could perceive some kind of concern hover over *Sally*, by

her often offering to speak, and checking herself; which giving me some uneasiness, I inquired into the cause of it. She replied, she imagined we had selected the worst spot we could for sleeping on; for that in case the blacks returned, they might here behold us at a distance by moon-light, surround and destroy us all, before we knew where we were; for there being so many of them, and so few of us, if we were encompassed, it would be next to an impossibility to break through and escape.

I agreed that her argument proceeded upon a just foundation, taking all to be as she supposed it; "But," said I, "you take not the greatest part of our strength into your account. Our little army consists of more useful hands than you imagine; we are 17 strong without you."—"I presume," said she, "you reckon my namesake and the rest of her fraternity into your muster."—"We do so," I replied; "and they are a surer defence than double the number of any armed men I could select, had I a good army to draw them from. Then demanding whether she was not eye-witness of the execution they did that day, she assured me it had escaped her notice; that her enemies fled, she perceived; but from what motive she could not say, except at the sight of us.

I then gave her a sketch of the properties of our dog-birds, their undauntedness, and method of engaging, with the service they had been of, in procuring us a subsistence; promising her, in case of no attack from the blacks, that she should be a witness of their strength and ferocity. Thus having calmed her doubts, we laid us down to rest, till *Joe* should summon me upon duty.

My spirits had been so fatigued that day, that although my body required rest, yet my mind would not permit me; having *Sally* so near me, contrary to all expectation, my concern for her future welfare, and my solicitude for her ease and comfort, kept me wakeful as much as my duty upon watch would have done.

Joe had no great difficulty in raising me to supply

his
refi
wh
firt
M
than
whe
Our
nex
blac
draw
best
surp
loss
and
I ha
befo
W
we h
were
clud
at lea
the c
at for
W
arriv
spect
try a
cover
and
ing t
witho
Fro
tirely
our p
that t
a stop
Sally l
so tha
with

his place at my appointed hour, and in due time I resigned it to *Sam*; when laying myself down by *Sally*, who had never stirred during the best part of the two first watches, I gained about three hours sleep.

No sooner had the sun proclaimed his approach, than we were all on our feet, in close consultation where to begin the operations of the ensuing day. Our victuals were spent, and must be recruited. Our next concern was to gain intelligence whether the blacks had quitted the country, or were only withdrawn to the woods; and if the latter, how we might best avoid any ambush they might have formed to surprise us; we had not a single man to spare; the loss of one might prove an inlet to the ruin of all; and moreover, I had ten times the inducement now I had *Sally* with me, to avoid danger, than ever I had before.

We determined to proceed to the hill from whence we had made our discovery of the boats; for if they were removed, we might with some certainty conclude that either their owners were entirely gone, or at least that we had dislodged them from this part of the coast, though they should happen to be relanded at some greater distance.

We had a great deal of cover to pass, before we arrived at our prospect hill, and were very circumspect in crossing it; for though we kept the open country as much as possible, yet when we came near the covers, we dispatched our dog-birds first, to beat about and clear the way for us; and if after some time hunting they returned quietly, we ventured boldly on, without fear of danger.

From the ridge of this hill we beheld the shore entirely clear from the boats. Being able to take into our prospect a large tract of the coast, we supposed, that they were returned to their own country, to put a stop to the excursion of the commonality, which *Sally* had informed us were to have followed them; so that under these conjectures, we quieted our minds with regard to them.

We now agreed to ascend the hill on the land side, and look out for an hunt of venison or beef, or what else might present itself to us; when in less than a mile's walk, we roused a stag, after which we sent our dog-birds, who presently brought him to the ground. This course was a high gratification to *Sally*, who had never seen anything like it before; but what afforded her most pleasure was, that our *Sally* was the first that took stand upon it.

After refreshing ourselves on this dainty, we began to have some thoughts after our cell, having met with nothing affording so secure an asylum as that, in all our travels; but we were now at such a distance from it that, for the sake of that alone, we would not turn back.

Our march had hitherto been due west from the cell, nor could we be less, as we imagined, than 150 miles from it; but now the sea being our boundary to the west, we resolved upon fixing our future route full southward, that we might acquaint ourselves as near as possible with the most likely parts for obtaining relief in; for as there was so vast a coast, we could not but conclude that some shipping or other must frequent it.

Our journey continuing for five or six days on the top of one hill, without the least descent or valley all the way; on the seventh, we arrived in sight of the sea again; when being vastly above it, and observing the course both of the land and water, we judged ourselves to be upon some promontory, which had extended itself a long way into the sea, and that proceeding further southward would be to no purpose; so that we altered our course more easterly; for as we had at times beheld a prospect of the northern sea, and now lately of the west and south; we should, by travelling to the east, know for a certainty whether we were on an island, or on some limb of the continent only.

We were unanimous to take the route we had proposed; but seeing the shore just at the foot of the

hill, we agreed to go there first before we set forward. On our arrival we found it incline eastward, so we resolved to coast it some way. In this passage we picked up several shell-fish upon the sands, which afforded us a pleasing variety; and one evening, our birds seized upon a beast, for which we had no name (but what hath since been exhibited to me as a sea-lioness); so that finding it very pleasant travelling there, we continued our progress, resting on the land every night, above high-water mark. On the fifth day of our perambulation on this flat, we were opposed by a deep swamp, which put a stop to our further proceedings near the shore, and obliged us to take a circuit of a quarter of a mile or more, inland, to come round it, and a low rock which run on the other side, parallel with the swamp to the sea; but we had no sooner arrived at the further bounds of the rock, on the land-side, than we were alarmed at an army of blacks, who were there collected in different exercises, and also at the prodigious number of boats, which darkened the face of the water for a long way together, on the edge of the shore. We had unthinkingly stumbled upon this vast body of people before we were aware of it; and had now neither leisure nor opportunity of consulting measures for our preservation, by engagement or retreat. I had but just time to remove *Sally* out of sight, she being so terrified, that she was swooning away; and if she had, must have been her own doctor, for we could have afforded her no assistance. The blacks who had observed us, as soon as we discovered them, neither fled nor approached toward us; which irresolution of theirs inspired us with fresh courage; but we chose not to venture too near their arrows, they being as dangerous as our guns. In this manner stood both our armies viewing each other for some minutes; when *Joe*, who was a very hot fellow, impatient of delay, fired among them, killing one outright, and wounding another, both of whom we saw drop. He had no sooner fired than our birds ran upon them while they were discharging a

flight of arrows at us, who, retreating behind a corner of the rock in our rear, avoided them; then springing forward again, for fear of a pursuit, we levelled our pieces, and I brought down another, by which time *Joe*, having recharged, was preparing to fire again; but the enemy fled with such precipitation to their boats, that many of them broke loose empty, by others pushing upon them; several were turned keel upward with their lading, and the confusion was so great, that many more men were to be seen swimming in the water, than were shipped on board their craft, of which several were left behind them moored to the shore.

It is impossible for the human mind to avoid exulting at conquest; then what must not we three travellers do at the dispersion of such a vast multitude, sufficient by their numbers, had their courage and conduct been equal, to have eaten up our little army for a breakfast! *Sam* and *Joe* followed till they had quitted the land for the water; but I observing that one of our birds was fastening upon a black, who was tied with his hands behind him, I called him off, leaving the unhappy sufferer bound till our return. We guarded the shore all that day, drawing up the boats to land, that the swimmers might have no hopes of recovering them; for at a vast distance we could observe them helping one another on board, till they were so loaded that the boats turned over with them, or sunk, whilst others assisting the unfortunate, were reduced to the same calamity; but before night they were all out of sight.

No sooner were we rid of them, than I called to *Sally* to come forth, who upon the news of their dispersion exulted greatly. I then took her with me to the poor confined creature, on whose back and shoulders one of the birds had but just fixed his talons, when he was called off; but he had left such marks remaining as never after disappeared.

I desired *Sally*, whom I expected to have been well acquainted with their dialect, to ask him the occasion

of his being bound; but he scarce understood her, being, as we afterward discovered, of another country, a prisoner taken in the wars of the two nations. She demanded whether he was the only one. He answered that he was, but that there had been 49 of them killed and eaten. He said, that he was just tied for execution, as we came round the rock; for that they were all to have left the island next day. Then turning his eyes up sorrowfully to us, he humbly begged that we would not eat him. *Sally* assured him we would not; "but," added she, "had we been your prisoners, you would not have scrupled eating us." The poor fellow then spit, in detestation of the action; but she not taking that for a reality, asked him what he would have done with us. He replied, that he would either have made us his slaves, or have sold us to those who would; for that his countrymen never ate men.

I desired *Sally* to ask him, what he would do with himself, if we should release him, seeing that all his friends were departed. "My friends!" said he, "I never desire to see their faces again. I will be your slave, and serve you." She then asked if he would go to his country in one of the boats; but he knew no more where it was, he said, than we did; giving us some very cramp name for it, which never after having occasion to repeat, I have forgot. We then gave him his freedom upon his parole; with liberty either to accompany us, or to shift for himself, as he saw fit, by sea or land: then loosing his manacles, he fell on his knees, kissing our feet, and demonstrating his gratitude by such sensible means as he could devise; whereupon, we desired *Sally* to assure him, that so long as he retained his fidelity to us, he should be treated as our friend, rather than our slave; he made signs for us to hang him if ever he proved unfaithful.

The last thing we did before we went to rest, was to go to the sea, to observe if any of the shattered squadron of the blacks was yet in view; we could not discover any: several of their boats were driving about,

all empty, some one way, some another; and a number of dead carcases were thrown up by the surges.

The poor fellow asked *Sally*, if we had something to eat; for that he having been fatted, had only subsisted upon water for the three last days, that he might die empty. *Sam* finding him desirous of food, pointed to one of the blacks who had been killed by the dog-birds; but he shook his head, saying that he could at worst lie down and die by him, but that he would not eat him to preserve his life.

Whilst we were watching the shore, the tide being down, we saw a bull or cow move at the edge of the swamp, behind the end of the rock, next the sea; and observing it to retire from the shore, we called two or three of our dog-birds. They soon drove it through the swamp, inland, to the further part of the rock, whence we had first seen the blacks; but as we could not possibly follow it the way that it took, we ran round to meet it, and came up just as the birds had brought it to the ground. We cut its throat, and slaying it, prepared a part for our suppers, reserving some for another time, and feasted our dog-birds on the remainder.

We deserted not this spot for some days; by which time being thoroughly persuaded that the blacks had quite forsaken the island, we set out again for the eastern tour we had before projected. On our journey, *Malack* (that being the name of the black whom we had released) proved a most excellent companion. He would carry all the guns for us; nor did the honest creature think that he could ever recompence us for the benefit we had done him. He was here, there, everywhere, at the least nod or call; nor could we afford him greater delight, than in accepting his service. *Sally* and he being able to understand each other, made him extremely fond of her conversation; but when he had heard her story, and how she was to have suffered in the same manner with himself, if we had not opportunely interposed, and prevented execution; how did he bless us! and after bestowing all

the other encomiums that he could, he told her, that he believed us to be more than men, and near relations of his god *Scarf*; which was certainly the greatest honour he could pay us.

Being now five in company, our travel became very agreeable to us for several days; till we were centered in the heart of the country. It was then I first began to perceive, that *Joe* and *Sam* were ever casting a waning eye on *Sally*; and by a certain reservedness in their behaviour, and, contrary to custom, associating more and more by themselves, I began to suspect that some mischief was planning against me, for *Sally's* sake; notwithstanding we were in our present conditions so much upon a level; yet I having, by their choice, borne a pre-eminence heretofore, had without seeking preserved a sort of authority among them, and they had all along paid a voluntary submission and deference to my opinion and judgment; but now I plainly perceived, that on a sudden the case was altered, all distinction was lost, and that it being my proposal was sufficient grounds for a contradiction; nor could I recollect from what other source this change could proceed than my interposing between them and *Sally*, against whose honour I persuaded myself they were forming attempts. I was thoroughly sensible what little stress is usually laid upon old friendship, when once lust has gained dominion in the heart; nor could they, as I imagined, look upon themselves more secure from me in the prosecution of their passion for her, than I could esteem myself from them.

It appearing daily more and more conspicuous to me, that some such thing was actually in agitation, as might, nay must in its consequence, if not of my life, at least deprive me of all my future hopes in *Sally*; I endeavoured by every means to defeat them, and for that purpose formed a stricter alliance with *Malack*, by expressing a great regard for him, and employing every artifice for attaching him to my interest. I likewise declared my suspicions to *Sally*, and used her influence over *Malack* to rivet me in his affection,

preferable to *Joe* or *Sam*, and by private hints to bring them into disrepute with him.

All this being pretty well effected, we jointly took the opportunity of mentioning to *Malack* our former engagements to each other, in our own country; and the distrust we had of our companions ill designs on me, in order to pave their way to the debauching her, which they must be sensible would prove a fruitless attempt, so long as life remained in me. I therefore told him, that I was the sole instrument of first engaging the blacks, at the release of *Sally*, which had not brought them into, we had never attempted relieving him; so it would be but a part of generous retaliation in him to protect and assist *Sally* and me, in his turn, in case either my life or her virtue should be in danger. Having not without some difficulty given *Malack* a sense of our fears, the reasons for them, and of the part we would have him take, in case of an open rupture between us; he readily acknowledged it to be his duty to assist the injured against oppressors too mighty for them; and heartily espoused our cause, and engaged in our defence. When I had brought him to my mind, I assured him, that I should make little more use of him than to stand by me if we should engage; for as that would probably be with our guns, of which they would have two to my one, I would prepare a second charge for mine, which he, holding in readiness, should apply as I would direct him, that might not be left long defenceless after my firing.

Malack promising to act according to my orders I cut him a strong stick to defend himself with, and to annoy the enemy, when he should see the fittest opportunity; for I told him, that should we once enter upon action, I was determined to conquer, or die in the attempt; for that I would never more than once trust my life in the hands of any man who should attempt it, even upon the most solemn protestations of repentance, which I was very certain would last but till they could gain a proper advantage over me.

We had now very little of *Joe* and *Sam*'s company

for several days, except at meal times; though they withdrew themselves not far from us; and what I dreaded most was that they would murder me in my sleep; for it was very plain that they were no less jealous of me, than I was of them.

A few days afterward, as *Malack*, *Sally*, and I, were pursuing our journey together, through a thicket toward the edge of a lawn, *Joe* and *Sam* being somewhat further in the bushes to our left, a lioness and two whelps rushed out of the cover, just before us. The beast made a stop, and, to my thinking, was about to leap on us; when giving a shout and cheer to the dog-birds behind me, the creature no sooner espied them than she fled, with the young ones after her, to the lawn. The birds now being in pursuit, I followed to the plain, leaving *Malack* and *Sally* behind me. I had not run a furlong before I was struck with such a horrid cry for help, as put a stop to my pursuit of the beasts; and I returned back again to the relief of *Sally*, from whose voice I was too sure the cry proceeded; it still continuing louder, added wings to my feet. I doubted not but that *Joe* or *Sam* were perpetrating their villainy. Just as I was pushing into the thicket, I met *Malack* with a gun in his hand, who began to inform me what was transacting, but in such confusion and broken dialect, as my haste would not permit me to interpret; but beckoning to him to follow me, I sprang through the underwood to the place where the cry called me; where it was but too demonstrable, what those ruffians were preparing to transact.

Poor *Sally* lay extended on the ground, with *Sam* at her feet, and *Joe* at her head, while she contended with all her efforts against their attempt. Their eagerness in the prosecution of their villainy prevented their observing me; so that being well assured no real injury had as yet happened to her, I rested a moment for breath, and to recollect my spirits for consideration, in what manner to proceed with them.

I had my gun at my shoulder; but the dread of accidentally hurting *Sally*, prevented my discharging it;

till *Joe*, seemingly in great heat, raising himself to wipe his face with his sleeve, I could no longer withstand the opportunity, but directly shot him through the head; so that his corpse fell across *Sally*.

Sam, starting at the sudden burst of the gun, and the fall of his comrade, snatched up his piece, which lay by him, in order to return me the salute; but had not time enough to fire before I had disburthened *Malack* of the gun he brought me; and that instant letting fly, I shattered *Sam*'s right arm to pieces; when his gun dropping, I closed in upon him. "Rascal," said I, "your treachery is returned upon your own head; nor shall you long survive the loss of this member, which hath so lately been employed in abusing innocence." Then taking up his gun, I was preparing to dispatch him. The poor wretch was so faint with the loss of blood, which flowed from his arm, that he could stand no longer; but sat down and begged for his life. Observing that *Sam* was past further mischief, and delivering the gun to *Malack*, I ran to the assistance of the distressed *Sally*, who still lay under the weight of *Joe*, so terrified, that she was unable to free herself from his corpse. I turned him aside, and raised her on her seat; but the shock had seized her so violently, that she was scarce able to support herself; when calling *Malack* to my aid, we set her with her back against a tree; then kissing her, I begged her to compose herself, since her enemies were no longer able to distress her, and returned again to *Sam*, for certain knowledge of his circumstances. The blood sprang from the great artery of his arm with such violence, that had I prized his life ever so highly, I perceived it would be impossible for me to save it. Then assuring him, that I judged him to be a dying man, I urged him to make a true confession of who had first framed this wicked design against *Sally*, and what was to have followed, had they been successful: for I told him, that they could not imagine but that I would have persisted to death in defence of her chastity.

Sam, who by this time was as sensible of his de-

capture being at hand as I was, extending his left-hand to my right (which I gave him), heartily begged my pardon for the intended injuries to myself and the lady, which he assured me was all his own contriving; though *Joe* very readily came into it, in hopes of having a woman between them, in that desolate country; but that their design was not to have used any practice against her, before they had dispatched me; till the opportunity of her being left only with *Malack* offering, they could then noways postpone their resolution; expecting, that after debauching her, they should have been prepared for my death, ere I should have returned; when their intention was to shoot me from behind the bushes. *Sam* had scarce finished his confession before he dropped on his side, when a few convulsive struggles carried him off.

On my return to *Sally*, I found her recovering apace. I informed her of *Sam*'s death and confession, and of the scheme they had laid for my destruction; but having not as yet been apprized of the particulars, I began to question *Malack* in what manner the assault upon *Sally* had began. *Malack* answered, that as soon as I had quitted the thicket, *Sam* and *Joe* rushed upon him and *Sally*; and presenting their fire-arms, ordered him to retreat. He went not far, before he heard *Sally* cry out vehemently; when suspecting what they were at, he again advanced toward them, who had by this time thrown her on the ground, and were behaving as he thought so barbarously to her, that had it been in his power, he would have killed them; but observing one of their guns to lie at some distance, he took it up, with intent to have done as he had observed me to do; but he knew not how to go about it. *Sally* having interpreted to me all *Malack*'s discourse, added, "O, Mr. *Bingfield*, this is now the second time that I stand indebted to you for my life, at the peril of your own. What owe I not to your goodness to me! But this accident has so much reduced our number, what shall we be able to do, should the blacks return?" I replied, that I was under no apprehension from them, we being now so far

from the sea-coasts, and in a quite different part of the country to what they frequented. Besides, having our dog-birds still with us, I told her, that I feared neither them nor any thing else hurting us. "But," says I to *Malack*, take you up the two guns, and put on one of the deceased's clothes (for he was stark naked, except a piece of *Sam's* skirt of his coat tied round his middle), and bring me the breeches for *Sally* (who as yet had no other covering than the coat I gave her at first); and then we'll leave this melancholy spot; for the very idea of it fills my mind with horror."

We accordingly set forward in further search of the country; but being unwilling to leave the lionesses and whelps behind, we turned toward the plain, where we met two of the birds returning from the slaughter, so full that they were ready to burst. We pursued the eastern point for many days, astonished that after so long travel, we should neither have reached the ocean or observed the least traces of human beings; but as we were now at ease in our minds, time lay not so heavy on our hands as while our lives and honours seemed dependant on the precarious caprice of other men; and in order to amuse ourselves at leisure times, *Sally* taught *Malack* to speak *English*, till he could do it intelligibly enough to us, who were used to him; after which, he would divert us with stories of his own country, where, from his report he was no mean person, being the king's brother; but surely a better creature, more harmless, and invariably attached to our interest, never lived.

Having heard the history of our loves, and its long standing, he said to me one day, "Ah *Nere*! (which with them signified Master, as *Ness* did Mistress, he always using that form of speech to *Sally* and me) how blessed are you, to have the woman you love, and who loves you, always so near! But I am amazed at you making no better use of it; for you only converse and seem pleased with each other's company. Now had I my love here, I should use her otherwise, and as a good woman ought to be treated."—" *Malack*,

aid I, "it is the custom of my country to be married first to the woman we love"—"Married!" replied he, "what you call that?" I then explained what I meant by marriage, and the solemn engagement man and wife entered into, to be true and faithful to each other; and that we were to perform that ceremony before a holy man who is appointed for that purpose. "What!" says he, "I presume he is to be witness to." I replied, that he was; but that the king of heaven was also the grand witness of it, to whom we appealed for our sincerity. "And are you and my *Ness* ever to be married till you meet with a holy man?" I told him, that we were not. He was then very inquisitive, whether the holy man made any promise for us. I replied, no; that we only answered for ourselves, "If that be the case," replied he, "and you are both willing to make the promise, can't I be witness to it equally as well as the holy man? But you say, it must be before the king of heaven; then think you, he can't hear us in this country as well as in yours?" I must confess, that *Malack's* arguments seemed so void of all manner of prejudice, and flowed so easily from natural reason, that I was at a loss how to oppose them; and yet, my plea was wholly insignificant without it. *Sally* (in whose absence our discourse began) coming up, I repeated to her part of our conversation, and asked her her opinion of it. She modestly answered, with a blush, that having never considered it, she left those niceties to the learned; attempting to change the subject, by relating what she had been noticing in her walk, and endeavouring to withdraw our attention from it. But unwilling to drop the argument, now we were so fully engaged, I pursued it, by making *Malack* re-deliver his opinion of his own sentiments; nor would I quit my purpose, till we had so thoroughly investigated it, that I was in hopes a proposal of that nature would not be contemptuously rejected, even by *Sally* herself, for whose virtue I had ever retained the sublimest notions.

For some days I deliberately canvassed over this

matrimonial affair in my mind, and brought myself into a clear conviction of its legality. Preparing then my whole force of artillery in support of my pretensions, I attacked *Sally*, most earnestly intreating her to divest herself of all prejudice and prepossession, and to reflect that we had been so long united in affections that nothing ought to procrastinate our happiness any longer, especially under our present circumstances; and I could see no reason whatever for debarring ourselves that felicity which both our inclinations, I hoped, tended to.

In short, I urged these reasons, and many more, in so convincing a manner to *Sally*, that she told me, she had too great a sense of my esteem for her, and of my own natural goodness, to imagine that I would attempt the commission of any thing contrary to my best informed judgment on the divine law; much less that I would, for any satisfaction to myself, endeavour to impose upon her weakness, to accompany me in it. "therefore," added she, "only give me assurance that yourself are fully convinced of the legality of the act, under our present circumstances, and that alone shall silence all further objections of mine." I complied with her demand; and kissing her, protested before *Malack*, that I proposed eternal truth and constancy to her, in as ample a manner as if our marriage had been celebrated in the most solemn form used on earth. Then taking her hand in mine, she engaged me to the like fidelity to me; from which instant we became man and wife, and lived together ever after as such.

I was now under the strongest obligations to *Malack* for those hints which, in their consequence, had afforded such felicity; and he was no less delighted to see us thus happy, than if himself had obtained the mistress he left behind him; but what heightened his satisfaction was, my frequently assuring him that but for the hints he had given me, I should still have lain under the embarrassment of my former scruples, so that he now having an interest in our prosperity, esteemed it not the smallest part of his own happiness.

We spent the remainder of the year in great tranquillity. We went, by gentle stages, more to the eastward; and became so habituated to the soil we were on, that we had few other thoughts than of living and dying there. Our long walk to the east was at length terminated in a prospect of the wide ocean, which demonstrated to us that the land we inhabited was an oblong island; and that unless, by means of shipping, we could procure a discharge from it, we might end our days in travel without ever exceeding our limits; but as we had no want of provisions, except salt and bread, we rendered our lives as comfortable as we could, without either of those articles.

We were now descending from the eastern hills to the shore; but between us there was still one single cliff to be ascended, whence was a very steep, and almost perpendicular fall to the water. As we were mounting up the last ascent, about a quarter of a mile from the shore, on a sudden we heard music. This unaccustomed sound engaged all our attention; but the strand lying so high against the shore, we could only imagine it to be caused by the instruments of some ship sailing near the coast, and as yet under cover of the cliffs; for we could only behold the sea at some distance over them. The nearer we approached to the summit of the cliffs, the more sensibly were we affected with the sound, which seemed to be very solemn and engaging. We were convinced that it must be composed of a great variety of instruments, but they were mostly of such tones as we had not been acquainted with. However, imagining it to be ship-music, our hopes were elevated by the expectation that we might by their means be conveyed to some known shores, which spurred us on to the view of them. But at the height of the cliff we beheld not one ship, but a great number of small vessels lying just off the land. Not seeing them under sail, or any living creature moving upon the sands, we could not imagine to whom they belonged, or what had brought them thither. But while we were attentive to them,

we thought we heard the music more behind us ; when looking about us, we saw a prodigious train of people, all dressed in white. They had entered from the shore, through a narrow passage in the cliff, and were walking three and three a-breast, with the music before them ; and at a few ranks distance from the music, there seemed to be something white, lying on a sort of stage, borne upon men's shoulders.

The nakedness of the cliff prevented any concealment of ourselves from them ; but they moving obliquely from us, we could not perceive that they took the least notice of us. They proceeded very slowly, but with great regularity and solemnity, through a small wood in their front, till we had entirely lost sight of them. Being very desirous to discover the mystery of this grand procession, I proposed to gain the top of another hill, a little distance from the wood they had entered, from whence I imagined we might be able to observe their further march, and gain some insight into its design. We made toward this hill with all speed, and from its summit perceived them still in march to a valley surrounded by small rising and trees ; on the area of which stood a number of low erections, seemingly built of stone, in the nature of separate cells or sepulchral monuments, of various forms and devices. We were determined to maintain our position till we should discover with what intent they marched thither ; for the whole train could consist of little less than a thousand people. No sooner were they arrived at these small buildings, than the stage was grounded ; but what followed we could not discern for the crowd, who were collected about it, all in a ring, as close as ever they could stand by each other, many deep. When they had continued in this position about an hour, the stage was elevated again ; and instead of the white thing, which before lay upon it, we could plainly discover a man, in an upright posture, standing thereon ; and the multitude, now moving very briskly, shouted all the way they went, and the music displayed its harmony in the

most cheerful and sprightly airs. In short, the whole scene was changed, from a grave solemnity, to an excess of mirth and jollity.

We could not imagine what all this parade tended to, nor did we chuse to gratify our curiosity, by exposing our persons to an assembly, for whom we had very much varied our esteem since their first appearance; so that we lay quiet till they had all embarked again, and were put out to sea. Then taking a view of the valley, we conjectured that we saw two small heaps, which they must have left, since we were all sure that we had not observed them before the multitude retired. Having day enough before us, I proposed taking a walk to the valley, and examine what these heaps were. No sooner had I mentioned my intention than we put it in execution; but upon our nearer approach to them, how were we amazed at the sight of two fine jolly men sitting, one on each side of one of the little buildings, with their heads inclined forward, wringing their hands and bemoaning themselves most lamentably! We halted at about thirty paces from them, and beckoned them forward to us; when they holding up their legs, and rattling their chains, indicated that they could not remove from their situation. *Malack* was for leaving them there; but they seeming to implore our aid and pity, went up to one of the chained men, inquiring, by the best signs I could make, the cause of his confinement. The poor man wept; and after much ado, by signs to his head, and to the stone building, and such other tokens as he judged most significant, gave me to understand, that his king was entombed alive under those stones, and that himself and the other prisoner were two of his friends, chained there to perish with their master; nor did he seem so much concerned for himself as for his king; for upon my attempting to see him, he put by my hand, and pointing to the stones, intimated that his master was first to be regarded.

Not properly understanding all this man's motions, I could not totally divest myself of all doubts concern-

ing the reality of his story ; for though that somebody was in the building was very apparent, from the groanings that proceeded thence ; and that himself and his companion were chained to it, was as true : yet whether he within side was a king or a robber ; or whether the chained men were his ministers, or accomplices in his villainies, was more than I could penetrate into ; but yet it grieved me to think of leaving them to perish there. I deliberated a little on the consequences, and at length my compassion gaining the victory, I could no longer suffer my fellow-creatures to languish in misery, which I was capable of releasing them from ; so I told *Malack* and *Sally* what I apprehended the man had meant by his motions, and likewise my scruples on that head, together with my anxious concern for their release ; at the same time subjoining, that believing it to be my duty to free them, we must leave the event to providence. *Sally* was no more void of her fears than I was ; but she said, that it would be cruel to suffer them to perish for a conjecture only. As for *Malack*, he was wholly neuter in the affair ; so having gained my wife's consent, I immediately began to release the captives.

Though the man and I were convinced that neither of us understood a single syllable that the other said, yet we could not forbear talking to each other as regularly as if we had ; but as soon as *Malack* came up and heard him, he immediately questioned him whether he could speak the *Songee* : to which the stranger earnestly replying that he could, they fell into immediate discourse together ; but the prisoner's impatience for the discharge of his master, would scarcely allow us time for assisting him. Observing that the staple, which fastened his chain to the stone, projected about three inches, I bended it backward and forward, by repeated blows with a large stone, till it broke. The poor man was no sooner freed, though the chain still had his leg in hold, than he embraced me. Laying his head on the ground, and taking my foot, he would have placed it thereon ; but I would

not permit it; so raised and pressed him to my breast, which he considered as the greatest honour imaginable; then running to the tomb, he smote it with his hand, and looked round it on every side, but was wholly at a loss how to open it.

I left *Malack* in discourse with the other prisoner, whilst I took a survey of the tomb, and considered how I might best uncover it. As for the sides and ends (for it was an oblong square), there was no probability of penetrating them; but the whole roof being composed only of three stones (two large flat ones, which stood edgeway, inclining inward, and almost touching at the top; and the other laid lengthway, upon the upper edges of them), I had hopes of gaining admittance there, though the joints were so fine, and the stones so thick and ponderous, that I was not insensible of the difficulty it would be attended with. I took the broken staple; and flattening the ends of it between the stones, I drove them into the new mortar, by repeated strokes, till I had forced the upper stone to open a little; then I cut a stick edgeway, driving that in to take the bearing off from the staple; then alternately driving the staple and the stick, we soon heard the king within making some low noise (for he was almost suffocated); but he soon made much more, as the air entered the device; and (as the stranger told me, by his speeches) was afraid that the enemy were coming to put him to a worse death; but we soon satisfied him to the contrary, and that we were attempting his release.

We had now raised the upper stone above an inch from the other, but could move it no further, till by setting a strong lever, and prizing with it, we threw quite off from the top; but not regarding where it fell, if *Malack* had not dragged the other prisoner away to the length of his chain, he had certainly been dashed to pieces by its fall. Having removed the upper stone, we had but little difficulty in prizing off a second one; when out stepped the king. The mien and sentiments wherewith he accosted me, as his deli-

verer, were truly noble and magnificent; though I am persuaded the latter lost much of their energy by passing from the mouth of the stranger, in the *Songee* tongue, to *Malack* my interpreter; and I am the rather of that opinion; as his majesty, when he understood that *Malack* spoke the *Songee*, addressed himself to him, who delivered his sayings to me in much more refined elegance than I had before received them from a third hand.

I remember that one of his speeches was to this effect, when he took me by the hand: "Let it be recorded, great sir, among the glorious achievements of your life, as none of the least worthy of your actions that, by your hand alone, the most illustrious *Bomarrah* was raised from his sepulchre, to triumph over his own and his country's enemies."

Having freed his majesty and the two men from the stone, though not from their chain, I received their applauses and caresses with abundant satisfaction. I then ordered *Malack* to signify to his majesty, what a satisfaction I should receive at a relation of that misfortune which had induced his late catastrophe.

The king then began with enumerating his long train of noble ancestors, from whom, by uninterrupted succession, his crown had devolved on him; that he had reigned twenty-two years, that is, ever since he was twenty years of age; that having long been victorious in his wars with many nations, and having added a vast extent of dominion to his empire, his subjects almost adored him; that a fresh war late breaking out between him and a neighbouring power (having been dangerously wounded in his last campaign), his subjects would not suffer him to expose himself in person in this, but to send his army under the conduct of a nephew, whom he had educated and trained up in the exercise of arms, and to whom he had promised the next succession of the crown, having no issue of his own. This, he said, he did at their request; but his nephew having gained complete victory, had, by insinuations, presents, and

large promises, so wrought upon the officers under him, and all the soldiery, that throwing off their allegiance from their natural lord, they embraced his offers; and upon entering the palace at their return, proclaimed him king, secured his majesty's guards, and confined his person. "I had many offers of life and liberty sent me," added he, "if I would but renounce my throne to him, and content myself with a peaceable retirement to a castle on my frontiers; but I disdained to receive a bounty from my nephew, a traitor; especially, as it came accompanied with compulsion. My resolution of not parting from my just inheritance, except with my life, being made known to him, he ordered instant preparation to be made for immuring me in this place, which contains the sepulchres of all my ancestors, and in which each new king, soon after his instalment, causes his own monument to be erected; as this from which you have freed me was, about twenty-two years since, appropriated to my use, though little did I then imagine I should be brought alive to it. My subjects were inconsolable for my misfortune, but could afford me no relief, the city and adjacent country being both in the possession of the soldiery, and they my enemies, or at least obliged to feign themselves so. I was conducted hither by them as a dead corpse, and left to perish with these two worthy servants, who alone durst withstand their menaces, and adhere to their lawful master. Thus, sir, have I, as succinctly as possible, laid before you a sketch of my sufferings; and now my base nephew is gone forward, to hold his coronation-solemnity at a place some stages further in the country, where we usually receive our crowns, and hold a festival of fourteen days upon that occasion; but alas! it shocks me to think how mean the ceremony will appear. They have only forty barks, and but few above a thousand men, all soldiers; for had they not left a strong guard behind, my servants would never permit him to land again. When I was crowned, we had above five hundred vessels; for not

a soul, but those who were either too feeble through youth, or decrepid through age, would stay behind. A vast alteration between a lawful prince and a base usurper!

My indignation was so strong against this new king, and his rebel crew, that I could scarce contain myself within bounds of moderation. I told the king, that from my soul I pitied his fate; but yet, if he would give me leave, I would undertake to reinstate him in his dominions. He shook his head, and thanked me for my kind wishes in his favour, assuring me that it was too late. I begged him to be of good heart; for that if he would venture himself along with me, I would engage my life for it, that I would put all his enemies, with their king, to flight, by a peculiar method that I had. Then pointing to my dog-birds, which were lying around us, I asked him whether he had any such creatures in his country. He replied, that he had not. I told him, that they were a species of creatures unknown to me till my arrival on this island; but that I had since applied them to such purposes as would almost surpass belief; adding, that one of them would vanquish the boldest lion, or any other creature that could be produced; for that neither man nor beast had hitherto, from any experiment that I had made, been able to stand against them. I then related the scene of the blacks in two engagements, in both which I assured him that by their means I dispersed them. I then signified, that by the instrument which I held in my hand, I could lay any single man dead upon the spot.

During my discourse his majesty and his ministers sat very attentive, not offering a word in reply; whereupon I bid *Malack* ask them whether they would stand by their king, and assist in reinstating him at *Kronomo* (that being the name of his country). I observed, by their motions, that they seemed highly to disapprove of my project, esteeming it as monstrous and chimerical. I then desired information to what part of the country the soldiery were retired with

their
coast
inqu
and
poin
days
foldi
bow
casio
mati
king
defin
had
P
wor
aske
affil
thou
them
a fe
over
to
they
men
wer
each
in t
bird
adm
not
I
king
wit
wor
sho
rep
obl
fita
be
clai
title

their new king. They said, a great way round the coast, at least three days sail to the southward. I inquired next how many days sail it was to *Kronomo*, and toward what part of the country it lay. They pointed south-eastward, and said that it was twenty days sail. I then inquired what sort of weapons their soldiery bore. They replied, that their troops used bows and arrows in the field; but on the present occasion, only short pikes. Having gained such information as I then judged most material, I told the king; that if he pleased, we would now go to rest; desiring him, and his ministers, to reflect on what I had said, and deliver their opinions in the morning.

Poor *Sally*, who had been very attentive to each word that had passed, when we were laid down, asked me what I could mean, by offering my personal assistance to three naked, unarmed men, against a thousand disciplined troops. "We shall not make them a breakfast", says she; "for should we destroy a few of them, yet their remaining numbers must overwhelm us." "Pray *Sally*," said I, "look back to our two encounters with the blacks. Were not they, especially the last body of them, far more numerous than these are, and better armed? Yet they were so far from overrunning us, that they overran each other to avoid us; rather submitting to perish in the waters, than to stand the shock of our dogs-birds." Perceiving me resolute, though she noways admired my scheme, *Sally* assured me, that I should not want her prayers for a blessing to attend us.

In the morning, I expressed my concern to the king, at having no victuals to accommodate him with; but acquainted him that, if he and his friends would take a walk with us to the plains, my animals should use their best endeavours for his service. His reply was, that I had already laid him under so many obligations, that he could not expect any further assistance from me; and though I could not be said to be his subject (though his predecessors had always claimed that island as theirs, and, to preserve their title, were all crowned and buried in it), yet from

thenceforth he would, through every turn of his fortune, commit the custody of his head to me. I returned my compliments to his majesty for the honour intended me; but added, that unless he would concur with me in the prosecution of the scheme I proposed last night, of raising him to his proper dignity, nothing could possibly administer joy to me. The king answered, that my proposal had not passed disregarded; but when he reflected on the calamity we must suffer, should I prove unsuccessful, he was loath to attempt it; for as to the loss of life to himself, it was of no further consideration, than as it might possibly be rendered beneficial to me, to whom he so justly owed it. I begged his majesty to suspend his opinion of me, and my companions, till a few days were elapsed; when, if I did not demonstrate to him that two of my dog-birds were a match for a hundred pikes, I would forfeit my credit with him for ever.

We had by this time wandered above a mile from our lodging, and were crossing a narrow valley, between two small woods; when we heard a bull grumbling toward our right; and his noise growing louder and louder, we judged that he was descending into the valley. The king and his friends all seemed in the greatest terror imaginable; all together demanding of me which way we should fly for safety. I smiled; and offering my hand to the king, assured him, that I intended that very creature for his breakfast; at the same time desiring him not to be dismayed, but only to be a spectator of the diversion, which I was satisfied would be very pleasing to him. His majesty hinted his wonder at finding me so positive before I had even seen the creature, or could form any notion of its parts and abilities; for though he believed that my birds might perform great feats, yet he wished me to wait till I should have fully observed the bulk, strength, and fury of the creature, before I condemned it for a breakfast. "Your majesty," said I, "mistrusts my veracity, which cannot but give me deep concern. May I succeed but in the subduing your rebel nephew, as I shall in this! If

I give you not a breakfast of the flesh of the approaching animal, let my head pay the price of my presumption." The creature had by this time entered the valley, and a vast one it was; which though it gave me the greater satisfaction, yet the king exulted the more in his own conclusions. It lowered its head, and was making at us on a full trot, which gave the king still greater grounds for suspecting me a madman, when he observed me rather to meet than fly from it. I had before given *Malack* the charge of all the birds but two, with which he retired to the woods; then suffering the beast to advance within thirty paces of me (the king and his friends having slunk off a good way behind me) I gave the charge to my two birds for the attack. The bull no sooner perceived them spring from behind me, than he turned tail; and while they were in pursuit, I called to the king, and the rest, to come forward; but before they could reach me, the birds were perched on the creature's back, when slackening his pace, and bellowing most hideously, he soon dropped. The king, who little suspected so speedy a conclusion of the race between these creatures, held up his hands as in amaze; then clasping me in his arms, "Forgive," cried he, "a faithless man, whose disbelief, I must confess, hath injured you. I am convinced; nor will I evermore oppose my judgment against your affirmation."

I called up *Malack*; and having prepared the beast for the fire, we broiled such part as we thought proper for present use, making a reserve of what we should further want, and then feasted our birds on the remainder. This was all performed, before even the king and his companions could well believe it was a reality; for they all protested, that nothing but ocular demonstration could have given them the satisfaction they then received; they not having been anyways able to comprehend either the vigour or activity of the birds, from imagination only; but they soon admitted, that if these creatures would in the

same manner fasten upon mankind, nothing could be able to withstand them. This I assured them they would do, and also desist from their impetuosity, only for a word speaking. His majesty and his courtiers began now to have so good an opinion of my proposal for his reinstatement, that I no sooner mentioned it to them again, than they all engaged to follow wherever I should lead them, and to act entirely at my discretion. Then giving me the best information they could of the place where the coronation-ceremony was usually performed, we sat forward that very day on our expedition, being well convinced in my own mind, that if it was not more than two or three of their days voyage by sea, it must be a much nearer cut by land, could we but hit upon the readiest way. The fourth day in the morning, we discovered the shipping, from an eminence we were then crossing, from whence we concluded that the company were not far off; which proved true; for we soon discovered them below the hill we were then upon, making merry in careless order; whereupon we made an halt, to survey our ground, and by what means we might approach nearest to them unobserved, till ourselves should first make the discovery.

The side of the hill under which they lay was very steep, and almost inaccessible in the middle parts, but sunk considerably at each extremity. It was formed like a half moon, with the horns extending toward the ocean; and within this sort of amphitheatre were they all collected very near to the hill, but much nearer to that end of it which we proposed to descend by. I then charged all the three guns; for though I had but two or three bullets left, I had sufficiency of powder for several shots; and to supply the place of bullets, I had at times formed several cylindrical pieces of stiff clay, which, when baked hard in the sun, though they were somewhat deficient in weight, would do almost as much execution as the balls themselves; and with these I charged two of the guns. I then inquired what force was usually

left on board the ships on these occasions for their security; and was answered, very few, and sometimes not a man on board many of them. I told them, that my design being to intercept their flight to the shipping, I would descend the hill on that end which lay between them and it, that not a man of them might escape, till they had acknowledged *Bomarrah* for their sovereign. Delivering two of my guns to *Malack*, and placing the third on my own shoulder, I gave the word to march. I told the king and courtiers, that as they had no weapons, I should not expect them to engage, but all that I desired was, that they would show themselves to be alive; which the king and they promising to do, and further to be guided in all things by my direction, we proceeded down the hill.

When we had arrived at my projected spot for the engagement (having left *Sally* behind us at a considerable distance off among the bushes), we took the advantage of some shrubs, for advancing as near as possible, before we exposed ourselves to their notice. I inquired whether either of them could point out the new king to me. It was with difficulty they could discover faces; till after some observation, his majesty singled him out to me, with a golden circle, or small coronet, about his head. Fearing lest my companions should imbibe as much terror from the burst of my gun as the enemy would, I just acquainted them, that they would immediately hear a violent noise, which they must not be surprised at; but place their eyes upon the new king, whom I would promise his majesty should never offend him more, after he had heard me thunder. Stepping to the skirt of the brakes, which had hitherto sheltered us, and levelling my piece at his new-created majesty, I gave fire, and saw him drop in the midst of his people; which put them all into the utmost consternation. Then delivering my gun to *Malack*, and receiving another from him, I exposed myself to their view, charging *Malack* keep close to my heels with the third gun. I then

called to the king to come forward, and advance with me to the main body. They made a stand, and were collecting into order for resistance; when calling off my dog-birds among them, each seized his man. The cries and bitter howlings of these poor sufferers threw the rest into such a confusion and panic, that happiest was the man who could leave the birds, and their dying companions, farthest behind them.

The king having been witness to the fate of his nephew, and now to the flight of his army, ran to me, "Thou more than man," says he, "shall I believe my eyes, that this has been done by thee alone?" He was then under too much anxiety to receive his compliments; so begged him to remain composed awhile, and he should see an happy issue to his affairs, for that we must follow the consternation before it cooled again; after which I would talk to him as much as he pleased. Then calling off the dog-birds from the poor men, I observed one or two of them to be yet alive, and just able to walk. These I brought before the king, charging them with their perfidy; and finding by their confessions and sorrow, that they were compelled to act the part they had appeared in, took their oath of fidelity to his majesty, which one of his ministers tendered to them, and begged him to pardon them, which he granted, upon their due submission. I then led them to the corpse of their late elected king, to satisfy them that he was no more, and observing the main body of them collected upon the other horn of the hill, to observe our motions, I demanded of his majesty, whether among all the officers of note in that body, he had no one whom he still had reason to believe was at heart his friend. He replied, that he believed they were mostly so; the superiors only having been seduced, and the rest obliged to adhere to them, from a dread of the consequences of their refusal. He then naming one, for whom he had a more peculiar regard, and who, till this defection, had ever behaved with the most becoming duty, I ordered these two fellows to go to their comrades

and
fence

and not only publish the death of their king, but that *Bomarrah*, their natural lord, was on the plain, ready with open arms to receive them; and upon their due submission, to grant them an oblivion for their past offences, and, on the word of a just man, to overlook their error, and receive them under his protection; but withal to signify to them, that their obstinate refusal of this proffered grace would be attended with the destruction of every man, by the same means as themselves and their new king had suffered; giving them particularly in charge, to inform *Almanor* that the king required him to attend immediately. Having dispatched this embassy, we waited on the plain for their return; when, the report of *Bomarrah's* life having ran like lightning through the whole corps, and the death of the new king being received with such equal certainty, they instantly drew themselves into groups, to consult on their future behaviour, on this critical a juncture; but the messengers having possessed orders only for *Almanor*, he alone returned to the king. No sooner was *Almanor* within due distance of his majesty, than he fell on his face, stretched out his neck in token of submission; and observing that the king had no weapon with him, he drew his own (a sort of sabre), and sent it to him by one of the wounded men, begging him to make the proper use of it; but his majesty, greatly moved by this striking mark of repentance, raising him by the hand, kindly satisfied him. "O *Almanor*," said he, "had it been told me that my right hand would have raised itself against my head, I might have credited it, as what was barely possible; but nothing, except positive proof, could have afforded even a jealousy of *Almanor's* fidelity." *Almanor*, with tears in his eyes, indicated his majesty to accept his forfeit life, which from thenceforth could but be extended in misery, insisting that the king should strike; but *Bomarrah* returned him his weapon, with this compliment: "I am satisfied, *Almanor*, that since you have, all mankind may err. Bear this, for the time to come, in remembrance of that life, which this the keeper of my head

(pointing to me) hath preserved to me. You have had your failing; and I am persuaded, will be seduced no more. Remember you now take place in my heart, as usual. Then deserve it."

Almanor was so much humiliated for his offence against so gracious a master, that he wanted words to express himself by; but having taken his own oath to the king, he begged to know his majesty's pleasure whether he would pardon the whole army on their submission; for he said, that though the defection had become so general, yet he could vouch for the hearts of ninety-nine in each hundred of the whole army; that they were entirely with his majesty; and that, with his leave, he would bring them all down to receive his clemency. The king signifying it to be his desire that it should be so, he returned to the hill, having first received the ministers' request for bringing the keys of their chains with him. An hour had not passed since *Almanor's* departure, before the whole soldiery were in motion to the plain, when he dispatched one of the wounded men to *Almanor* with orders for them to pass, man by man, before his majesty; at whose feet each was to drop, and leave his pike. This method being exactly pursued, each man as he passed prostrated himself, and swore allegiance; the king speaking mildly to several of them, but especially to the leaders and officers. The review was scarcely over, when I ordered *Almanor* to draw his men into a circle, where they stood with the utmost dejection in their countenances; for being now wholly unarmed, not only their past fault, but the thoughts of succeeding punishment, kept their spirits in violent agitation. When his majesty, with his ministers, entered it, they, by his command, proclaimed an universal indemnity to them all. These words were but just pronounced, when there succeeded such a general shout as shook the surrounding hill. But when he had ordered every man to resume his arms again, and had established each individual in the place and preferment that they held before their crime, the whole shore rang with their clame

Long live *Bamarrah*! After which each officer had leave to kiss his majesty's robe.

This work had so engaged my attention, till I had brought it to perfection, that I had not so much as once thought of poor *Sally* in her retirement; but now I sent *Malack* for her, and to give her some account of our proceedings. She complimented the king upon his re-instatement, and was saluted by him, and permitted to sit on his right hand.

I then proposed to the company, that as his majesty had been forced from his kingdom, and not only another king acknowledged but also crowned, it would, in my opinion, be but taking a necessary step to prevent scruples at his return to *Kronomo*, that he should accept the crown a-fresh from the hands of the army then present. This being universally agreed to, the ceremony was performed the next day with every demonstration of heart-felt joy.

Our festival having been spent to the mutual satisfaction of every party, we drew up for our march to the ships, where I desired his majesty's leave for myself and little family to depart. This the king would not so readily consent to; but insisted upon my accompanying him to *Kronomo*. I then intreated permission to embark my whole family. "By all means," replied he; "and pray let the dog-birds be of the number; for though they are masters of the beasts of this land, I durst affirm that my country abounds with creatures, which they will be afraid to venture upon."

Before we arrived at the shore, I dispatched six of the officers, to inform the fleet of his majesty's restoration; and to command them to attend him on the land, to make their submission, and accept his pardon. This news, unexpected as it was to them, who had no other conception but of his majesty's death, was nevertheless joyfully received by them; and so eager were they in their expressions of zeal for the king, that they even met us at some distance from our vessels, not leaving a man behind them; when his majesty having received them with his usual be-

nevolence, and pardoned them, they returned shouting to their ships, to prepare for our reception.

We hoisted sail with a fair wind; and during our passage, I advised the king to dispatch one of the lightest vessels, and best sailors, with some trusty officers on board, to make report of his restoration first, to such of his friends as he could best confide in, then to the army; and lastly, to the populace; with orders to publish an indemnity to such as should return to their duty; to stay a day or two on land, and then to re-embark for the fleet; during which time we would lay out of sight of shore, waiting for their return. At their return, they brought the agreeable news that the noblesse to a man declared their satisfaction for the king's safety; that the populace immediately began their testimonials of joy on the intelligence; but that the soldiery were too sullen to show forth any tokens either of their approbation or dislike, except that some of the officers privately hinted, that they durst not declare an inclination contrary to the leaders, till they could see his majesty safe landed before their head them, when there were few who would refuse returning to their natural allegiance; but added, that a public declaration of such sentiments, as matter then stood, would subject themselves to death, without any benefit to the king. Our embassy having well answered the intended purpose, which was only to sound the above three orders of men, though our messengers had well nigh involved themselves in certain ruin by it; we proceeded to a small distance from the shore, which, on our approach, we found lined with soldiers. This put an immediate stop to our landing, till we were convinced whether they appeared in an hostile manner, or as friends to welcome our return. We sent *Almanor*, and some other officers within a small distance of the shore, to discover the sentiments of their brethren, who, upon converse with the heads of the faction, especially two superior officers, found them wholly intractable; but gained private information from some signs of the infer-

class of officers, that not a man but would, if he durst, willingly have declared for the king; but their commanders had pronounced it death for any one under their command, to express themselves in favour of him. I considered that it might be a work of danger, too implicitly to confide in these men, who are in general most submissively attached to their leaders; for which reason, I judged it very improper to trust the king's person on shore, without stronger assurances. I therefore desired leave to change my ship; for I was till then in the same with the king; and taking *Mulack* and my guns with me, I ordered the commander to steer to the shore.

My ship advancing before the rest, drew the soldiery to that part I seemed to have an inclination to land at; and so soon as we arrived within hearing, I ordered the commander to call out for *Vesek* and *Weem*, the two generals, for that I wanted to hold a parley with them. We waited till they came. Then demanding by what authority they had gathered the soldiery on the shore, to oppose the landing of their lawful lord; they answered, 'that they acknowledged no lord but *Urrhim* (for so the late usurper was called). We replied, that he was dead, and that the army had recognized his uncle *Bomarrah*. They rejoined, that no king whatever should set foot on that shore but *Urrhim*, or such other as themselves should appoint; that as for *Bomarrah*, he was their enemy, and they would use him as such, if he dared to land there. Then, by way of confirmation of their sentiments, they at the same instant discharged such a flight of arrows at us as darkened the air; but they being pointed too high, did no execution; but whilst they were preparing for another discharge at us, I fired at *Weem*; and snatching another gun from *Mulack*, I, by the discharge of that, laid *Vesek* on the sands, by the side of his brother-general. Then ordering the commander to move nearer to the shore, I asked who was a friend to *Bomarrah*; when an officer answered, "I am." I then told him (by my interpreter), that

his majesty would distinguish between those who first returned to his obedience, and such as persisted in defiance of his authority. Upon this speech, the officers answering my summons, his men all followed him; which the rest observing, and that they were well received by us, they one by one came forward, with their companies, till all had acknowledged *Bomarrah*.

Having reduced the soldiery to temper, I sent a messenger for the king to come on shore. I caressed the officers, and signified to them the pleasure the king would receive at their return to their duty; assuring them, that this their seasonable regard to him should not pass unrewarded. The king being about to debark, I desired the officers to cause their men to lay down their arms, and meet their monarch. They did so, welcoming him on shore with loud demonstrations of affection; in return for which, his majesty stood still among them, till his indemnity was proclaimed; which he having also confirmed by word of mouth, ordered them to resume their arms, and attend him to the palace. We tarried till all the men were landed, when both companies uniting, made but one guard for their sovereign; the populace expressing their satisfaction at the event, as his majesty passed by them on foot; and the nobility, in a body, met him and congratulated his return; after which, they preceded him to his palace; nor was there a voice, or musical instrument of any kind whatever, but bore some share in the rejoicings of that day.

His majesty's mother and two sisters (for he had neither wife or child), who had been in confinement ever since his misfortune, were immediately set at liberty, and paid their congratulations to him at a private audience, whereat only myself, and his two banished friends, were admitted. His mother, the finest old lady that ever I beheld, on seeing him, fell on her knees; and embracing him, "O my dear child," said she, "by what turn of providence have you escaped that miserable death you was consigned to?" His majesty then pointing to me, "there mother," said he

there stands my guardian angel, and conductor. To him, and him alone it is, that I stand indebted for my life, my crown, and my present felicity." At this reply she flew to me, clasped her arms round my neck, and almost smothered me with her caresses; then she fell again upon her son's neck, weeping for joy to great excess. The confusion about the palace was so great, of every rank and order of men, intermixed with the soldiery, that I begged leave to offer a word of advice. This being granted, "great sir," said I, "as no occasion can possibly create more joy to all your family within doors than the present; I must beg to remind you of the extraordinary number of people without, who are all expressing their satisfaction at the transactions of this day, so much to your glory; and to intercede for some entertainment for them, that they may return no less cheerful to their own dwellings, than they have hitherto attended your majesty to yours." The king replied, that it was highly requisite; and then ordering the proper officer to attend, commanded sixty fat kine, and five hundred sheep to be delivered out of his pastures to the soldiery and populace, with the proportion of every other thing that would be necessary for their festivity; ordering also as magnificent an entertainment in his palace as the time would admit, for his nobles and captains. He commanded also, that all prison-doors should be opened, and that a general release of all debts and crimes, from the beginning of the monarchy to that day, should be proclaimed.

According to my advice, no person was ever called to account for the late revolution; nor was a finger or a tongue ever raised against him during his whole life-time.

Not being able to judge what might happen at our first landing, I thought it adviseable to leave my wife and the dog-birds on board, till all things should fall into their natural channel; and as I imagined them to be in a place of safety, I made not the least inquiry after them till the festival was over, when I desired his majesty to assign me some little habitation that I might

bring my family to. This he did, by bestowing on me his late nephew's house, with all his goods and grounds, cattle, and implements, which was situated within the palace-walls, they being upward of five miles in circuit. I then brought home my wife and dog-birds; nor was there less staring at them in their parade than had been at his majesty on his entry; for no one but those who had been at my island, had ever seen such creatures as these birds before.

Sally and I blessed ourselves, under the cover of a warm roof again, with every convenience of life about us; but *Malack* was not capable by himself of executing the business of our family; so that we purchased three more servants, two maids and a man; where still our gardening and cattle requiring more attendance, we added two more men; and the king being exceedingly liberal, left us no room to require a larger support than he from time to time supplied us with, so that from one addition to another, we had at last advanced the number of our servitors to eleven (exclusive of *Malack*), one whereof was in constant employment for the dog-birds; the king insisting that I should increase their breed as fast as possible. About three months after our arrival, the weather growing more moderate than it had been in some of the former months, the king proposed a hunting match, he having several fine dogs, of different kinds, which he purposed to run against my birds. I told him, I feared he would repent the experiment, should a bird, instead of the designed beast, fix on one of his dogs. He made a laugh at my suspicion, being of opinion that many of his dogs would prove an over-match for my birds, if once pinched and roused to fury. I was sensible that the king set a value upon them, which made me the less willing to come to any engagement with them; but it being his pleasure, that a single bird and dog should be turned off at some great beast, I did not oppose it; so we sat forward to the deserts and less frequented parts of the country, in order to encounter some of the terrible creatures he had promised me we should there meet with.

At the end of eleven days journey, we saw a very large elephant stalking gravely cross a large desert plain. "Now," says the king, "let them start fair at that beast." We slipped alike; but the dog having somehow got the start of my bird, kept it a few strokes; till my bird springing forward, I perceived by his pointing at the dog, that he would surely seize on him. "Your majesty," said I, "I hope will excuse my bird; but I'll answer for it, you never more will behold your dog alive." "Stay, *Binfée*," said the king; (for both himself and all the court called me so) let the bird come up with him first." The king had scarce spoken the words before the bird was on the dog's back; upon which the creature making a most hideous howl, and stopping to ease himself, dropped instantly; and though we made all the speed we could up to them, we could not arrive before the bird had torn the dog's shoulder off, and devoured great part of it. I viewed the king's countenance upon the disappointment, to observe how he would take it; when he commending the bird, and seeming no ways concerned for his dog, I told him that now he should behold my bird destroy the elephant by himself, in the same manner; then giving him the word, he soon got sight of it, and was on his back as quick as thought, to work with all his might. The prodigious creature roared, casting about his trunk from side to side, to no manner of purpose, the bird being seated out of its reach. The beast made to some trees, imagining to brush off the bird against them; but before he could reach them, was brought to the ground; while the king and his train applauding the action, stood in amazement at it. The bird had so gorged himself before we came in, that he became too inactive for further exercise that day; so we loosed another, which we soon after let go at a wild horse. Here the king sent out a dog first; but two or three kicks from the creature's heels having severely bruised him, one stamp from its forefeet broke its back, and killed him. I then loosed my bird, which had very near suffered the

dog's fate, as he was taking his spring to the creature's back; but by good fortune avoiding it, he attempted the horse no more behind; but overrunning him, and turning about, gave a violent spring upon his head, where, with one gripe of his talons in the pole, he destroyed him.

After these experiments, the king gave up the contest, acknowledging it as his belief, that there was no creature so fierce, and such a master of his business, as the dog-bird. But as we were seeking out a place for pitching our tents, a few days after, a more dangerous creature presented itself from a cover, than any we had before seen; and indeed my doubts arose whether my birds would attempt it or not. This creature was of the serpent kind, but at least six yards long, with a body bigger than my middle. It was the most hideous beast that I ever beheld, having a dark-grey back, and yellow-spotted belly; but its eyes were so piercing, that there was no encountering them for any time. As it did not move towards us, but rather cross our way, we did not fly it; but turning about its head, which it carried erect, at least a foot and a half from the ground, it wagged its tongue, and now and then gaping its wide mouth, exhibited such a set of teeth as made one tremble.

The king asked me, what I thought of it. I replied, that in my opinion it was one of the most horrid creatures in the creation; "and what think you," said he, "of losing a bird with it?" I asked him whether he would venture a dog. He answered in the negative, assuring me that a lion would turn tail to a far less than that, which was the largest we had ever seen. "Then, with your majesty's leave," said I, "my bird shall try its luck with it."—"Be it so," said the king; "but you must leave him there; he never return alive." We gave the serpent fair play, that the bird might have a run before he came up with him; then cheering him forward, the serpent turned to front him; but before we could perceive what part the bird aimed at, he had clasped his talons

about the creature's throat, and in two minutes had torn his head to pieces; and when we came up to him, was feeding eagerly on the neck and body. This engagement delighted and surprised the king, and all the company; and made him still more anxious for a breed of them; for he thought it astonishing, that a creature so savage, and ravenous in nature, should submit to the least call or check of man. We had continued this chase about six weeks; and having all manner of conveniencies with us, we passed the time most agreeably. But I must not omit one other exploit of my birds in our return. Within a few days march of *Kronomo*, by the side of a large stream, we espied a crocodile asleep. I told his majesty, that I would make one more experiment; and if that failed not, I should from thenceforth pronounce my birds unconquerable; but not choosing that the bird should seize the beast off his guard, we threw stones at it, which set it a running to the river. I then let go my bird, who immediately took his stand upon the back, but usual; but not being able either with tooth or nail to penetrate there, the uneasiness he expressed at his disappointment was astonishing. He ran the creature over from head to tail, backward and forward; till at last, fixing his talons on each of the fore legs of the crocodile, with its tail toward its head, he tore away, first behind the elbow; and before the beast could reach the water, he had drawn part of his liver through the wound, and killed him.

In about four days after, we reached *Kronomo*, where little was discoursed of for some time, but the properties of my birds; and had each hen, of which I had nine, laid and hatched a hundred eggs every year, I could have disposed of them; nor were they less plenty in a few years at *Kronomo*, than dogs in *England*. *Somarrah* studied more and more to load me with favours; whilst I lived in more dread of them, than the vilest malefactor could of his wrath; for I was not ignorant as not to discover a different behaviour to

me in his ministers, from what they had expressed at my first arrival; so that after I had been about five years among them, I employed every argument with the king, either to permit me to depart, in search of my own country, by shipping; or else, that he would suffer me to retire far from his court, to some private retreat, that I might not be exposed to the envy of his ministers. But I never could draw any other reply from him than this, did I want any thing? If so, I might command it. Was not all the regard he had expressed to me capable of fixing me with him? If I would desert him, it should be without his consent, which, he imagined, I had an heart too good to attempt. These, and such like broken replies, were all that I could ever obtain to my requests. About my seventh year, *Bomarrah* was seized with a violent fit of illness; and having no male relation to succeed him in his government, the nobles held a meeting to consult what was to be done, in case of the king's death, and to intreat him to nominate a successor. They deputed some of their body to attend him, to know his pleasure therein; when he told them that it was his opinion, that in case they chose to continue an happy people, they must make me their king, which if they would consent to, he was ready to confirm their choice by any regal act they should advise while he was yet living.

Having been ill through a cold and pain in my head for some days, this affair was wholly transacted without my knowledge, or I should have entirely dissuaded the king from any such design, as the most prejudicial thing that he could have attempted for my interest. However, upon the deputies return, they reported the king's inclination to the rest of their members, which raised such a ferment among their body, that some of them proceeded so far as to say I was a sorcerer, and had bewitched the king thereby, not only to heap more than justifiable favours upon me in his life-time, but also to confer on me the inheritance of his crown at his decease. Nay, so inveterate were the

known, that they scrupled not to affirm that the king's disorder was wholly owing to my practices upon him, in order to pave my way to the throne. These surmises, though kept wholly secret from me, were not only buzzed about the city, but had found their way into the court too, till at length they reached his majesty's ears. Nothing in the world could have given him greater concern than these rumours, which he was certain were as malicious as they were groundless. Nay, they affected him to such a degree, that though he was unable to rise from his bed, he summoned a convocation of the states in his own chamber; where, as well as he was able, he opened the tenor of these reports to them, as having come to his ears; at the same time, upon oath, declared my innocence. He assured them, that the happy tranquillity which his late majesty had enjoyed, ever since his restoration, had been wholly owing to my advice; for that I had counselled him to measures of lenity; nor had I ever since I had been in his country, once moved my tongue against a single member of the community, but in benevolence and amity; notwithstanding the repeated occasions that had offered themselves for a contrary behaviour. He desired that they would give their opinions, whom they would approve for his successor; for that nothing should more disturb his last moments, than to think that he should leave his good subjects liable to the calamity of a civil war, the necessary concomitant of various competitors; and that if they could but agree upon any one, more capable of sustaining its dignity with honour and reputation than myself, he would accord to their choice, and confirm it. Here, his majesty paused; while the whole assembly stood silent round him, none daring to oppose his sentiments. "What!" added he, "are we so wretched among ourselves as neither to accept a worthy prince, when offered, or to propose a more excellent one in his room?" Then one of his majesty's ministers, whom he had released with him, answered, that but for the war he had upon him, at surmising his majesty's death he would be approaching, in so readily approving of a suc-

cessor, he should have no scruple in joining his voice to his majesty's for *Einsee*; being well assured, that no fitter person could be nominated, or one who bore a greater regard for the nation.

This speech of the minister brought several others into his sentiments; when the king demanding of his other favourite what was his opinion, he replied, that surely that nation was unworthy of a king, that could not among themselves produce a man qualified for government; that nothing but his majesty's command should have drawn his sentiments from him; but that he could not answer for the consequence of so unprecedented a thing, as the nomination of a stranger, from those who might suspect themselves injured by it; not doubting but many such there would be when opportunity should offer; by which means, the state would be more convulsed, than by permitting things to take their natural course. This minister had no sooner broke the ice, than it was apparent he had by far the majority with him. Whereupon, the king desisted urging the affair any further; but recommending unity among them, dismissed the assembly.

My illness, as I said before, having detained me for several days from court, I was a perfect stranger to all that had passed; but it being reported that the king grew worse, I offered to pay what I expected to be my last duty to him, but was refused admittance which being what had never before happened, extremely alarmed me; and the slight regard paid me by each person I met, but too plainly demonstrated that some evil was in agitation against me.

Supposing that what had happened durst not have been done but by the king's order, I made it my request to his majesty, by several hands, who had hitherto courted my commands to the king as an honour to themselves, that he would be pleased to signify wherein I had so heinously offended him, 'as to be denied access to his presence; but could not receive any answer, though I was assured my requests should be performed; and early the third morning afterwards the king died.

As soon as the states could be assembled for nominating the successor, and before they proceeded to election, it was put to the vote, that I might be banished the kingdom, and carried by the unanimous voice of all present. Nay, so implacable was their malice against me, that the time for performance of my sentence was limited to the next morning light; after which, if I was seen within four miles of the city of *Kronomo*, I was to be put to death. And further, if after the space of six days I should be observed within the dominions of the late *Bomarrah*, I was to suffer the like punishment.

I had heard of the king's death, soon after it happened; but what related to my own affairs had been more reservedly carried on, till on the afternoon of that unhappy event, *Garis*, one of the junior nobles, who through my means had attained to his honours, was dispatched to me with the melancholy state of my affairs. He assured me he was still my friend in his heart, as were several others, who durst not oppose the impetuosity of the current against me, by their feeble voices. He opened the contents of his dispatch, with tears in his eyes. Beginning with the king's first intention of the crown for me, and proceeding step by step, as I have above related, he entered upon the sentence that had been passed upon me; when my knees smote together, my heart failed, and I became helpless as an infant. He further added, that *Melchi* one of those whom I had released at the king's sepulchre) had himself an eye upon the crown, and by his intrigues and interest would probably prevail; and that he, presiding in the assembly, had both framed and delivered my sentence; which having passed the votes of his dependants, no one durst contradict, lest his immediate death might only prove a warning to others to avoid the like behaviour. He advised me to fly with all possible dispatch, lest *Melchi*, who beheld his own insecurity in my safety, should prevail for an alteration of my sentence to some severer doom.

No sooner was *Garis* departed, than I summoned

my family around me. I acquainted them with the message I had received, assured them I was upon the instant of putting my sentence in execution; and then formally making my will, I gave to each of them such a proportion of my effects as their several stations in my family required; "and as for my house, that," said I to *Malack*, "I will bestow on you, whom I have ever found most faithful to me," with the several other things which I then mentioned. My whole family (except my wife) wept bitterly at the report of my catastrophe; but she shed not a tear, or seemed under the least further concern than what was occasioned by her impatience for my departure, that she might not incur the punishment annexed to my too long delay. I desired her to collect some few valuable things, of small burthen, which the late king had presented me, purposing to set forward as soon as the evening closed in upon us. We took a farewell of each servant, wishing them happy in their new acquisitions, and desiring their prayers for our safety in our journey, and were just ready to depart, when *Malack* appeared, with a small kettle on his head, a loaf of bread under one arm, a large wallet of somewhat bundled up in a cloth on his back, and one of my guns in his hand, "Whither now *Malack*?" said I, "what are all these for?" He replied, that we should want them in our journey?"—"And pray," said I, "which of us must carry that load? for I assure you I will not, and your mistress shall not." "O ho," says he, "*Malack* carry these himself."—"Why, *Malack*," replied I, "have I not bestowed this fine house upon you? What mean you then by carrying these for us? No, no, good soul, live happily here."—"What! I live in this fine house! *Neve* live in wood!" said he. "No, *Malack* love wood, when *Neve* in wood. *Malack* live in this house without *Neve*! Who will live there, *Malack* live with *Neve*."

Observing that *Malack* really was in earnest, and would go, I desisted from restraining him, and gladly accepted his offer. Then calling up two of our domestics

birds, we quitted our house, and set forward on our journey. Upon our arrival at the outer-gate of the city, the watch spying the birds, informed us, that they had orders to prevent their going out of the country, and insisted on our leaving them behind us. As we had resolved not to lose time, we not only exceeded the limits of four miles, but of three times our, by morning. Here it was that we made the first halt. We were no sooner seated, than we resigned ourselves to the disposal of the great ruler of the globe. We had scarce ended our ejaculations, when *Malack* produced the provision he had collected. The contents were such cold meats of several sorts, as we had in the house at our departure, and a quantity as yet untreasured. This faithful creature observing us concerned in his account, begged us to have no care for him, but to keep up our spirits by feeding heartily; that for his part he could be content with very small allowance, and then it would hold out the longer for us; but we obliged him to take equal share with us, not only in food, but in rest; but as for the burthen of the baggage, he not only claimed but insisted on that, as his own proper employment. Having received this comfortable relief, we again called to mind our sentence, and that we had but five days more to perform it in; but how far the kingdom extended, or by what route we should attain to the nearest frontiers, we were wholly ignorant.

"Malack. When we had settled the course of our future route, we arose and moved on, unwilling to subject ourselves to the pain of death, by disobedience; so that we made only such necessary stops as nature demanded, and those of as short duration as possible, for the first eight or ten days, some time before which our provisions had failed us; and now, for the first time, we regretted the loss of our birds, having seen various kinds of beasts which, by their means, might have been serviceable to us. We had entered on our ninth day, having for the two last scarcely tasted any thing but water; and I own I began to be so very faint and

sickish, that I was apprehensive of not being able to hold out travelling much longer; but my wife having as yet shown no tokens of uneasiness, I refrained from complaining to her; nevertheless, near the close of the evening, I hinted privately to *Malack*, that by the sinking of my strength and spirits, I much questioned whether I should be able to hold out for another day. This tender fellow was under such anxiety for me that I thought he would have gone wild; he ran to the plains, the bushes, the woods, not well knowing whither he went; but there was neither fruit nor ought else to administer to my wants; till having been absent a full hour, we began to be under no little concern to know what was become of him. At length sitting among the trees, *Sally* started up. "Where comes here? Is it *Malack*?"—"But what has he upon his back?" said I. We were both at a loss for the knowledge of it, till he cast it off at a little distance from us, when we soon after learned that he had found a nest of bees, which had lodged in a hollow tree where the combs hung down like flitches of bacon in a kiln to dry. He made no questions, or in the least complimented the owners for leave, before he made the best of his way off with about half an hundred weight of it. He came not alone, I assure you, for he had some thousands of attendants about him, who kept up a prodigious hue and cry after their despoiled property; nor were they tame spectators only of the outrage; for before he could disburthen himself of it at our feet, they had blistered his face, hands, and legs to that degree, that I was afraid they would have mortified. *Sally* and I observing the host that accompanied *Malack*, fled to some distance with no small precipitation, while the poor fellow ran to a brook not far from us; and by jumping into it, not only discharged himself of his besiegers, but in a great measure allayed the inflammation they had caused in his flesh. He ran his head, as he told us afterward, under some weeds, where he could just draw breath sufficient for preserving life; till by the cessation of the

humming over his head, he had hopes that his pursuers were returned home; and then he ventured up. *Malack* had as yet performed only part of his labours; for unless he could deliver to us some eatable parts of this comb, we were never the better; and this he would venture for, notwithstanding we persuaded him to the contrary; and soon returned with a lump of about ten pounds, which he had broke from the main cake. We ate some of this delicious food, and soon became new creatures. We enquired how he had brought it; which *Malack* described to us; when *Sally* replying, that she was amazed at his having endured so long a passage under the exquisite tortments he had suffered from the stinging bees; "O!" "What," replied *Malack* (for we all talked *English*), "All var well, var well. I no sting, *Neve* die. I sting, *Neve* live. Ah! dey sting *Malack* here, here, here (pointing all over him), *Neve* live, var well, var well." I told *Malack*, that indeed he had saved my life; but added, that if he did not remove the remainder of the cake, it would be again so covered with the bees, that it would be useless to us. The honest fellow took the hint; and conveying it to a great distance off, we all went to rest after our repast.

Our honey for several days yielded us a supply; but being exhausted, we were reduced to our former distress. *Malack* had taken my gun, 'tis true, though it had neither powder nor shot to load it with; but as *Malack's* load of provision was spent (though he would not part with his kettle on any account), I still offered him to carry the gun, being unwilling to throw away. As for my own part, and *Sally's*; the foreboding and uneasiness of the ways, after such a length of ease as we had enjoyed at *Kronomo*, had made sticks very necessary to assist our steps; and my own was almost a little tree, having a prodigious knob at the end of it. Thus armed and accoutred, pensively fauntering one day, and musing upon some lucky morsel to present itself for our food; a large beast, like a wolf, met us, with a fawn in his mouth, which being too big for him to raise from the ground, he was dragging it along

by the neck to his den. Fearful lest the sight of so fierce a creature should surprise *Sally*, I took her by the arm, and led her out of its way; when *Malack* putting the gun into my hand, and at the same time snatching my stick from me, ran up to the creature with all his speed. The beast stopped at his approach, and growled horribly; but unwilling to quit his prey, he turned aside from *Malack*, and was making off, when that active fellow brushed up behind him, and with one blow broke his back-bone at the loins; then repeating his stroke at his head, he laid him dead at his feet. He then stepped up to the fawn; which recovering a little, was aiming at his escape; but he caught hold of it by the hind-leg, and dragged it after him to us.

We highly applauded *Malack's* conduct, for the intrepidity which he had shown in the action; but much more, for bringing us the pleasing morsel his hands contained. But we had little time for compliments till we had satisfied those desires which still raged more fiercely, the nearer the prospect of their gratification appeared to be drawing on; so without further ceremony we skinned, and began to quarter it. *Malack* then taking the kettle in his hand (which I had often blamed him for encumbering himself with); and pointing to that, and then to the fawn, "How you boil that, no kettle?" said he, and was running to fetch water in it; but I stopped him, not wishing to stay for the ceremony of boiling, when a piece broiled would be much sooner attainable; though I assured him that when we were more at leisure than at present, I would satisfy him, that he had not brought his kettle so far to no purpose. Having prepared our fire, we cut off a shoulder, which we placed over smoak and all, turning it very often by the shank-bone, which served as an handle to it, till we judged it to be enough on the outside at least; and cutting each of us a slice we laid on the remainder, till we had picked the bones. Then sending *Malack* with his kettle for water, I set to work with the other shoulder, not doubting but we should be able to manage that too. *Malack* being arrived with the water, and the other shoulder fit for

the tooth, we drank a little water, and fell to work again as eagerly on this, as if it had been the first morsel we had tasted; till having eaten and drank our fill, we rolled up the rest of the venison in its own skin; and having tied it safely together in the cloth *Malack* had brought with him, we renewed our march. Intending to do great honour to *Malack*, the next day appointed him cook, for preparing the two sides of the lawn for our dinners. This was an ample cause of joy to *Malack*, who with the utmost care procured us not only a good boiled meal of meat, but a mess of excellent broth into the bargain. It would have raised an immoderate fit of laughter in an indifferent spectator, to have beheld us (who had lived like princes at *Kronomo*, with vessels of all sorts, and for every kind of use) lying flat on our bellies, bending the kettle forward, and sipping the broth from the crocky lips of it.

We had now led this wandering life for above three months, without the least visible prospect of an end to it; when one morning *Malack*, who was always stirring and looking about him before *Sally* and I arose, came running to us, almost out of breath. "O *Neve!*" said he, "tre mans come, tre mans come." We not being well awake, could not tell what he meant; till pointing to the place, we understood that three men were coming, with a great beast; for which having only his own country-name, neither *Sally* nor I could understand him; but supposed, by his raising his hand so high at naming the beast, that it must have been a camel or promedary. I asked *Malack*, if the men were armed; he told me, no, only he that led the beast had a long staff in his hand, and the others sticks for walking. I then inquired what colour they were of. He said between himself and me, like the people of *Kronomo*.

Being deterred to show myself, I took the gun, ordering *Malack* to bear my stick, and to keep himself within reach of me, in case I should want it; and I desired *Sally* to rouse up her courage, and stand by us, as valiant (at least in appearance) as either of us. Thus having regulated my small forces, and gained informa-

tion of the progress of their march, I chose to fall in with them rather by side-advance, on a sudden, than to meet them directly, which might give them longer time for preparation. We waited till they appeared at the extremity of a thicket of bushes, behind which we had sheltered ourselves; then darting out upon them at once, there appeared to be a person leading an elephant, with a close litter on its back, and two more men walking, one on each side the beast. I gave a smart hem before they saw us; on which they all started, but still kept on their way, bowing to us, and lifting their hands to their heads; when observing them to be as surprised at the sight of us as we were at that of them, I advanced to the foremost, or him that led the beast, making a sign to him to stop. This he first did, and then the others. I demanded who they were; what countrymen; and the name of the country we were in. But as they understood me not, so they also said somewhat, the meaning whereof I comprehended as little; when Sally, stepping up to my side, answered one of them, with which he seemed much pleased. Then taking a closer survey of her, he bid her ask me, whether I brought her this way to be disposed of to the grand seignor. Sally smiled at the demand, putting it to me in *English*. I started. "What Who is it," said I, "that presumes to ask the question?" But she desired me to refrain from passion, and let her alone with the strangers. She then made my first inquiries known to him who understood her; for she soon perceived that none of the others did. He told her, that he and his companions were travelling to the borders of the *Arabian Gulph*, in their way to the *Egyptian Sea*, with a lady to be transported thence to *Constantinople*, for the use of the seraglio; and that we were then just entering the country of the *Abyssinians*.

During our discourse, the curtain of the litter drew open, when the most beautiful face appeared that I ever in my life beheld, not excepting my Sally, who till that moment had borne the prize from the whole race of womankind. One of the keepers, in a rage, called, t

dered her to keep back, and draw the curtain; which she not readily consenting to, he was about to strike her with the stick in his hand, when I presented my gun; till he insisting upon it, that she should forthwith inclose herself, I bade *Sally* tell him, that if he spoke another word, I would immediately shoot him through the head. The fellow believing me resolute, and dreading the consequences of my wrath, obeyed; and the lady drew forward to the side of the litter.

She spoke to us in three or four different languages, before she was in the least understood; when having heard me speak *English*, and aiming at that herself, though she was exceedingly imperfect in it, both *Sally* and I could comprehend her meaning. She first declared herself a Christian; that she was of *French* extract, but came last from *Ireland*, where she had been about six months; that in her passage to *Japan*, she was taken into *Madagascar*, where, after a stay of twelve months, she was compelled to turn *Turk*, and was now, under conduct of those wretches, being conveyed to the grand seignor's seraglio; begging us, in the most earnest manner, to take pity on a poor, undone creature, and, if possible, to rescue her from the hands of her keepers. Her story excited my compassion to too great a degree to desert her. I reflected with myself, upon the dishonour it would ever stain me with, should I suffer a Christian to be prostituted to the lust of an infidel, when it might be in my power to relieve her, those fellows, as I thought, having no harms with them. However, not to act rashly, I put the question to them by *Sally*, how far we were from the nearest town, and what was the name of it. He replied, *Mantra*, which was at least three days journey from us. They were now for moving again; but the poor lady rending my heart all the while with her cries, from the back of the beast, for pity and compassion to her, I stood no longer to consider. I therefore commanded them to set the confined lady at liberty.

They demanded whether I was in my senses. I replied, that I was, and would soon make theirs desert

them; if they immediately obeyed me not. "What!" said he with whom *Sally* conversed, "shall we, who have travelled so far for his highness's pleasure, and at his command, return empty-handed? No, we will defend her with our lives, and secure our master's property." I was in hopes that the pointing my gun would have procured some terms of accommodation; but the conductor of the elephant making at me with his long pole, and being conscious of the weakness of my gun, I seized my great club; and avoiding the intended stroke of the pole, at one blow on the head I laid my assailant at my feet, who never stirred more. The other two, by this time, having engaged *Malack* and *Sally*, I was terribly afraid for her; but *Malack* having disarmed his man, I was up with *Sally* before any mischief had happened to her. He that was disarmed then ran to the elephant, and ordered the lady to deliver him the fire-arms out; which *Sally* hearing, begged her to forbear, for that we were struggling for her deliverance only. *Sally* then turning to me, and acquainting me that the *Turks* had fire-arms in the litter, I sprang up to the litter, intreating the lady to give them to me; but the *Turk* threatening and storming, and the lady stooping for them, I instantly knocked him down with my club, and then received a brace of pistols from the lady unmolested. I had scarce taken hold of them, as I was reaching with my extended arm for that purpose, when the elephant observing that I was not one of his old companions, gave me such a blow cross my loins with his trunk, that I really thought he had broken my back; for I was scarce able to support myself upright, or to draw my breath, I was in such pain; but with much ado I made a tolerable retreat, and sat me down, not being able to move any further. *Malack* had, by this time, beaten the third *Turk* almost to a jelly; for his stick not being of bulk proper for knocking down, he had so bruised him from head to foot, that the poor creature cried out for mercy. The first *Turk* that I had attacked, never moved more; but the other being only

stunned, was recovering, and about to rise; when I levelled one of the pistols, and shot him dead on the spot. Now it was that my concern for the lady overbalanced that for myself; for though we had nothing more to fear from the *Turks*, having only one disabled man of them living; yet the report of the pistol having agitated the elephant, he threw about his trunk, and was collecting himself into such rage, that I presumed, if not dangerous to us, it would prove so to the lady on his back, should he run loose among the trees and bushes. I ordered *Malack* to take the living *Turk* with him to the elephant, and make him release its rider; but neither threats nor persuasions would prevail on him to follow, he was so sulky; till *Malack* having resumed his cudgel argument till he was weary, and the beast beginning to trot off, himself went upon the expedition, or it had cost the lady her life. *Malack* turning very swift, soon came up with the creature; and by a peculiar spring, with the help of his hands, seated himself astride on its buttocks. This enraged the beast to such a degree, that he roared and sprang forward still in great fury, to which temper and motion the lady's cries contributed not a little. But *Malack* turning himself with his face to the tail of the animal, took hold of the lady's hands over his head; then begging her to fear nothing, desired her to step over into his lap. She did as she was directed; then sinking her down till he could grasp her in his arms, he holding her there, slid off upon his legs, preserving both himself and her upright, without the least hurt, notwithstanding the beast kept on all the while at full speed. I was heartily glad to see them both safe; for while she was standing in *Malack's* lap, so near the elephant's tail, I expected no less, than that both their necks would have been broken the next moment.

As I was unable to stir myself, I sent *Sally* to congratulate the lady upon her narrow escape; who also, at her return, paid me an infinite number of compliments, urging that she was debtor to me, beyond what would ever be in her power to discharge.

Having sat some time to compose ourselves, after

our fatigue, *Sally* told the lady, she hoped she had lately eaten ; for if she had not, she was afraid, she had rather we had not interposed in her escape, than to introduce her into so starved a company as we were ; “ for,” added she, “ we have tasted nothing since yesterday morning.” The lady (whose name was *La Bruce*) replied, that there was above an hundred weight of corn in her litter, with sweatmeats of several sorts, beside many other articles necessary for travellers. We all appeared totally dejected for the loss of so necessary an acquisition ; till *Malack* offered his service to follow the elephant, and recover the cargo, if he had but a dagger, or a long knife. *La Bruce* replied, that they were both in the litter ; for that the *Turks* had deposited them there, not to be incommoded in their walk.

Malack, without further ceremony, dressing himself in the late conductor's clothes, and bearing his long pole in his hand, went off as quick as lightning, in pursuit of the elephant, who by this time was out of sight ; but not returning in less than three hours, we were all under great concern for so useful a hand, lest by some accident the elephant should have destroyed him ; for as yet we knew not how he intended to behave with the beast, if he found him. At length, *Malack* appeared, leading the creature by his halter, as tame as a puppy. We were all surprised at the sudden alteration of the elephant's temper, till *Malack* assured us that, just as he expected, the beast, upon sight of him in the *Turk's* garb, came up, and fawned upon him with all the submission imaginable ; when he judged it would be the best way, to make him the bearer of his own burthen ; and that now, if we pleased, we might either make further use of him, or turn him loose again, as we should judge most proper.

We unloaded the beast ; which operation *Malack* began, by mounting his back, and disburthening him of whatever lay loose ; next ungirting the litter, we let that gently down ; and then, considering whether he might be of any further use to us, we resolved to dismiss him ; so *Malack* led him to the woods. Before *Malack's* return, the third *Turk* was dead.

There grew in a short time such a strict intimacy and friendship between *La Bruce* and *Sally*, that they became sworn sisters; for *Sally* told me, that having one of her own sex to converse with, and bear a portion of her difficulties as well as delights, was a high gratification to her.

As soon as I was able to walk again after my bruise, we formed a debate, whether we should endeavour to find our way to the gulph the *Turks* talked of, or return by the way *La Bruce* had travelled; for that, she assured us, would lead to the sea-coast. We could propose no benefit at all to ourselves by an inland walk; so concluded to go by her directions. Toward the close of the next evening, we took our lodging in a thicket; but had scarce laid ourselves down, before we heard human voices very distinctly. I wished it had been day-light, that I might have distinguished the persons; but it was not many minutes before they entered the very thicket we were in. Not being sensible how many of them there might be, or from whence they came, we suspected that we had been dogged into the thicket, and that we were now past all hope of escaping. We had thoughts, at first, of lying still; but unwilling to be surprised off my guard, I started up just before the men had reached us. Then ordering *Malack* to call out to them, they demanded who we were. We answering, strangers, who had chosen to spend the night there; they replied, that they were come for the same purpose, and would lay by us. I had no desire for their company; but as a refusal might be dangerous, we submitted to it, and they laid themselves next to me and *Malack*. We remained in this situation till deep of day, when I, who had as yet enjoyed no rest, arose, as did *Malack*, and soon after the two women; but we were scarce on our legs, before our stirring had awakened the strangers, who were, to my thinking, two as ill-looking fellows as ever I had seen, with each a scimitar by his side. We inquired of them the nearest way to the sea, which they told us was through the kingdom of *Magadoxa* to the river *Cumara*. They

were travelling that way, they said, themselves, and would accompany us; but added, that we were at a vast distance from it. We were just at the foot of a range of mountains, which covered a large tract of the country; and not judging it prudent to reject their offer, we agreed to travel with them to the next town, not imagining it to be many days off; but we had not gone on together above an hour, over a most barren soil, before we discovered to our left near twenty men upon camels, trotting with prodigious speed from behind one of the mountains, and presently several more, some on horseback, some on foot, following in like haste. Upon this sight, our guides almost flew to come up with them. It was a most afflicting sight to me, to perceive ourselves pent up between almost surrounding mountains, without help, weaponless, and two women to preserve from violence, one of them dearer to me than my very soul.

While these reflections were working up my mind to distraction, the horsemen surrounded us, and demanded an halt; when three of them alighting, without taking the least notice of me and *Malack*, first seized *Sally*, and by main strength clapped her before one of the horsemen, who immediately giving the horse the spur, galloped off with her, while the dismounted men ran to *La Bruce*, to serve her in the same manner. The fear of losing *Sally* inspiring me with resolution, I leaped upon one of the spare horses and pursued her with the utmost expedition that the poor beast could make, before the dismounted men had secured *La Bruce*. I had my great club in my hand, and gained ground every moment of the ravisher. I soon came up with him; when by a violent swing of my club, I brought him from his horse to the earth, calling out at the same time to *Sally* to keep her seat, and follow me. Then turning our horses short, we made the bend of our way to a wood, which we saw to our right at a vast distance. We pressed forward through the wood till having gained the height of the ground, upon looking behind us, we perceived ourselves pursued by

both horse and foot; but they were a very great way off. Having crossed the wood, we saw, at a small distance before us, a very broad stream, which ran through the glassy plain we were entering upon; beyond which, there rose another large wood. The river looked very wide at the distance, but much wider upon our nearer approach to it, being near a quarter of a mile over. Having convinced *Sally* that nothing but crossing that river could save us from the pursuit of our enemies, she agreed to venture over with me; and in a short time we landed safe on the opposite shore. We then sprang forward for the wood; and passing it gently, "Come my dear," said I, "here's nobody in sight yet, we'll gain the hill and defy them."

Having passed that wood also, we ascended a distant hill, from whence we could command the further side of the river; and there (having placed our horses out of sight) we lay down among the shrubs, to observe what would follow. We saw the robbers arrive in great numbers to the plain, by the river; when some rode one way, some another; but not a man of them came near the water-edge, or even showed any tokens of their suspicion of our having taken the river.

Not observing *La Bruce* among the horsemen, or any one like *Malack* among the foot who arrived, we did not doubt but that they were carried quite off, and sincerely regretted the loss of them both; but having made all the remarks we could till the robbers had quitted the plain, we descended the hill into an hideous desert, on the further side of it. We were now in such a country as we had never before beheld; for I much question whether we could see less than thirty miles in one unobstructed view; every way round us, except on that side of the hill we had descended, abounding in bushes and shrubs near the bottom, with some few tall trees intermixed. This melancholy spot confined our walks to a very narrow compass, and obliged us to keep close under shelter of the hill, not only for the immediate benefit of ourselves, but for the little sustenance which our cattle

could find there. There was a tolerable plenty of a small berry, like strawberries, about the skirts of the cover, and here and there small springs of water, which descending the hill, lost themselves in the sandy plain below. These were a prodigious refreshment to us sometimes, after several days parching drought, which we had no other means of allaying but by the small fruits. We travelled for many days upon the skirt of the hill, till we were almost exhausted for want of something more substantial than those watery berries, which only washed our stomachs without sustaining our strength. I determined therefore upon killing one of the horses the very next day for our support, which is indeed what I should most certainly have done before, but that we could not promise ourselves more than two days provision, from so large and noble a creature; for the heat of the country would by no means suffer it to be kept eatable any longer.

Sunk and dejected through these anxieties, life was such a burthen as deprived us even of the pleasure we had hitherto taken in each other; when turning our eyes toward the vast wild, we saw such a prodigious cloud of dust arise, as we were unable to account for, there being then a perfect calm; but presently we thought we observed somewhat in motion, though we could not discover what; and still which way ever the motion passed, the dust followed it. And this then drawing nearer and nearer to us, we could by no means keep our eyes from it.

"Sally," said I, "what will become of us now? Here are more robbers in pursuit of their prey. Let us retire into the wood with the horses; for should they discover us, we shall only have avoided one gang, to fall into the hands of another; and then all our labour and the hazard we have ran for our preservation, have been a vain toil." Poor Sally, quite terrified, begged me not to tarry a moment, but to retire. We did so; but excited by curiosity, when we were half way up the hill, turning about to reconnoitre the enemy, who by this time were advanced within distance of

our discovery, we plainly perceived that all our fright had been raised by some quarrel between two large beasts. One of them at last we saw was an elephant; but could not conceive what the other was, it being much short of the elephant in stature, and, to our thinking, like a wild boar, but a very large one. We kept our stations to view this running fight, till fortune conducting them pretty near to the wood we were in, the fray became very sharp between them; for the elephant panting violently, made a stand there, not being able to proceed any farther. We observed, that the little beast, which as I said resembled a boar, pushed only at the elephant's belly with its snout, while itself received such strokes from the other's trunk on its broad-side, as made our hill to echo; and these were so often repeated, that we were amazed at the little beast's ability to stand against them. After following this sport for some time, the ponderous elephant uttering a horrid groan, expired; when, to behold the little swaggering animal strut round the vanquished corpse, tosse about his trunk, smelling and exulting over him, was truly laughable; till at length, having triumphed as much and as scornfully as he pleased, he returned by the way that he came.

Our eyes followed him, till we entirely lost sight of him. We then uttered our grateful acknowledgments to that providence which had directed so unlooked for a benevolence to us poor creatures. And then descending from the wood to the plain, we began cooking some of the deceased beast's flesh for our dinner. We first cut several thin slices from the most fleshy parts, which we spread upon his body, to be made use of as we should want them; intending when we had done, to carry off as much as might keep sweet for another day, which was the utmost benefit we could expect to derive from so noble a creature; but how were we delighted, when in less than three hours while we staid there, upon handling one of the first cut slices, we found it as hard as the sole of a shoe, the juices being perfectly dried up by the extremity of the sun's heat upon it. This accidental discovery put us upon pre-

paring as much more as sufficed us for many succeeding days, and till we arrived at a sort of plantation, there being a plain crop of some sort of grain, inclosed with hedges regularly made, in which were growing several olive and other trees. Welcome as this sight proved to us, we were not wholly divested of our fears and doubts; as whether the owners were a civilized people, or only some of the fraternity of the spoilers that frequented the wastes. We made bold however with some of the fruits which grew there; but upon inspecting narrowly around us, could discover no traces of any buildings or habitations to which the inclosure might belong, though we had no doubt there must be some such, at no very great distance; but the part of the country we were then in being very much covered to our right, we could take no distant prospect that way; and night now approaching, we turned a little out of our way for lodging, in a small growth of ever-greens, which stood very thick, intending to make further search the next day.

We were passing through the woody country, in a long but narrow glade, which, as far as we could well see before us, seemed to terminate in the open deserts again; when suddenly, just as we entered upon the waste, such a host of people appeared to our right as amazed us beyond conception; for we met at the point of the wood, within fifty paces of each other.

We had so exposed ourselves to them, that it was in vain to fly, their whole van being on horseback, gallantly mounted. We turned the angle of the wood, as they came along by the side of us, and had passed many of their ranks, before any one of them took notice of us. We observed, that the horse, which were very numerous, were succeeded by a vast train of foot; and that at a considerable distance from the van, and pretty near to the end of the horsemen, there seemed to be some carriage, or elevated stage, moving forward, with parties of horse on each side of it; but still no one opening their lips to us, we began to take more courage, and were in hopes of no bad consequence from this surprising appearance; but that we

might gain some intelligence beneficial to our purpose, from the rear of the foot, we purposed to wait, and make inquiry of them. At length, the carriage (as we imagined it) being arrived just over against us, stopped, when the whole body made an halt; and when we perceived it to be only a large litter, borne upon a tall elephant, wherein, under a magnificent canopy, sat a very majestic personage, who dispatched one of the horsemen to us, to know who we were, and whither travelling. *Sally* answered, "strangers, making toward the sea." Not then being fifty paces from the elephant, we were ordered forward to him who sat on its back (whom we presently discovered to be their king); who having himself examined us, and finding *Sally* to be a woman, ordered us both to be secured, demanding whether we were *Mahometans* or *Christians*. We declared ourselves *Christians*. The king then ordered *Sally* up to him on the elephant, and sent me to be enrolled among his soldiery; but we were wholly ignorant of our destination. I had arms delivered to me, and was clothed in the uniform of his own troops, while *Sally* travelled with him in his litter for four days, and each night reposed in his own tent, he scarce suffering her to stir out of his sight; but at length, perceiving that he could not bring her by fair means to his desire, she having told him that I was her husband; he, in hopes of subduing her obstinacy by my sufferings, ordered my head to be struck off, in presence of his whole army. This sentence came very surprisingly to my notice on the fifth day, when *Sally*, almost wild with distress at the publication of it (for the tyrant had assured her, that unless she complied with his request, my head should pay the penalty of her obstinacy), drowned in tears, was, by his permission, suffered to have a final conversation with me before my execution; in hopes, no doubt, that for preserving my own life, I should have urged her to submission; but after the tenderness of our first interview, and a sort of last farewell, she dried up her tears; and recovering herself, addressed me in the following manner.

ner: "My dear, we have often, in our former distresses, sought for death, as what would minister the surest and speediest relief to us, so that we might both fall together. Now therefore is the joyful day arrived, which will present us with the conclusion of our misfortunes."—"What!" replied I, "has the brute included you in the same condemnation?"—"No," answered she; "but can you, my love, imagine, that I will survive you? Will not death, think you, sit as easily upon me as yourself? Then surely, I shall not be destitute of the means of accomplishing it. No, my dear, assure yourself, that the day which shall render you lifeless, shall release me from the misery of grieving for you. I shall fall contented, when you are no more; and only for heightening your distress, would myself lead you the way to eternity. Bear you but up against the stroke, my heart is fixed. I even long to be with you in those regions where we may enjoy an infinity of happiness together, which we have scarce tasted here." When I reflected on her constancy and tenderness, I was captivated with it; neither could I complain of the desperate resolution she had taken, or use the least argument to divert her purpose; well knowing that her life would only prove a dishonour to her, when her chastity was no more; for that the tyrant would long make use of intreaties alone was little to be expected; and to be obliged to submit to his passion, would be such a blemish upon her, as she could no ways survive. I beheld her with a heart overflowing with love; and though it was death to me (even in imagination) to consider her as piercing her vital blood for my sake; yet I so far overcame my reluctance to her destruction, as even to applaud her conduct, assuring her, that myself would receive the stroke with such constancy as should leave no stain adhering to my character. We were then taking our final embrace, when, as if envious at our transports, the tyrant, who had been an eye-witness to the passages between us, at some distance, sent orders for our separation, and she was immediately ravished

from my arms; but to what destiny I was uncertain; nor could we add a word more, or exhibit any further marks of tenderness, but by our eyes, which stole such looks as our persecutors could not well restrain, till we were past sight of each other. I was then conducted to a low stool in the center, where it was required of me to give my consent to part with my wife to *Abluffear*, that being the king's name. I replied, that I never would, but by compulsion, and required the executioner to do his office; assuring the spectators, that I was satisfied their master would suffer more by a death violently and unjustly inflicted on me, than I myself would, for that I should be sensible of severer torture from a compliance with his commands, than it was in his power to inflict for my disobedience.

Notice of my behaviour was, contrary to my expectation, carried to the king; who, upon the return of the messenger, dispatched an order for the suspension of my execution. This unsolicited act of benevolence threw me into the extremest rage imaginable, lest my wife, being ignorant of what had happened, should have practised upon her own life, before notice of his majesty's clemency should have reached her ears; so that throwing off all dread of my abject condition, I humbly begged that I might be conducted to the king, to acknowledge the favour bestowed on me. My spirit laboured so with the bare thought of the loss of my wife, while I should remain in being; and again with the brutal sufferings she would be exposed to, while herself continued in life; that divided between both, I was almost beside myself, when the messenger, who had made my request known to the king, brought me orders to attend his majesty. I fell upon my knees as soon as I entered into his presence, and testified my gratitude for his bounty to me; but assured him, that his views in my preservation would be frustrated, unless an immediate stop was put to the destruction premeditated by my wife, of her own person; which I assured him, should it take place, must compel me to pursue her example, for that I could not survive her.

The king having for some time weighed my speech, and observed my resolution: "*Christian*," said he, your wife, by a happy turn of providence, is safe; nor were you deceived in the prospect of her not surviving you; for hearing the shout which my extended mercy to you occasioned, and taking that as a signal of your death, she snatched a dagger from one of my pages, which was with the utmost difficulty wrenched from her, before she had plunged it in her own bosom; but that you may not labour under further difficulty as to her life and security, she shall have no future opportunity for any personal injury to herself. I am charmed with both your constancies; your courage hath gained my affection and applause; and as it hath so eminently proclaimed itself in this instance, preserve it but unsullied in my wars, prove but yourself deserving of her there; and at my return victorious, loaden with the spoils of my enemies, she shall be restored to you unblemished." I then most humbly thanking his majesty, assured him that he had inspired my soul with the utmost ambition of meriting his favour; nor could I even court his benevolence, till I had deserved it; but hoped I should neither be deprived of her society or assistance during our march. He replied that, as well for her sake as my own, he had sent her to his palace under a sufficient guard, to be reserved from the dangers and fatigue of war, where she would be in far greater security than with me. He ordered me likewise to behave with the same intrepidity that I had already shown, and to mention my affair no more; that whatever my fears were, I was obliged to be silent.

We were now almost arrived on the enemy's frontiers, when our scouts brought intelligence, that they were encamped about two days march from us, on our left, and were very numerous. The latter part of the account struck such a damp over our troops, which at most amounted to but fifteen thousand men, that the sinking of their courage was very visible.

Observing the disposition of my fellow-soldiers in droop, I begged leave of my commanding officer

with six more, whom I had selected for my companions, to take a view of the enemy's situation; for I told him, that as the king expected somewhat more from me than barely maintaining my post, I would gladly be apprized in what manner I could best dispose myself for his service. He permitted me to go; when taking the advantage of the night for our march, by deep of day we discovered their whole order; so that having made myself master of the ground, I returned. I then desired to be conducted to the king, to whom I gave an account of all that I had seen, and that, by the compass of their camp, I could not estimate their number at less than twenty-five thousand men; but I told his majesty, that though my inclination centered so strongly in his service, yet being but a private man, and acting only in that capacity, I could not render my duty so effectual to him, as if I was to command an hundred or two men myself; though I added, that my station in my own country was to have the direction of many more; and that if he would please to intrust me with such a corps as he thought fit, I would either procure him victory, or leave my body upon the plains. The king perceiving me so anxious, and remarking from my speech, that I had formerly borne command, granted my request, allowed me three hundred horse at my own choosing, and then desired me to inform him how I would dispose of them. I humbly begged his majesty to excuse me, and permit me to act as I saw fit, and as occasion offered; instating him to take no thought for me, but to press directly up to the center of the enemy, and make his strongest efforts to put them into confusion. Then taking my leave of him, I collected my little corps, and by night marched out of the camp. I had perceived, upon my first view of the enemy's disposition, a long mountain to the right of our army, extending parallel to the plain, whereon we were to engage, and about a mile distant from the destined scene of action. And this, I collected my men into an hollow, much about the middle of its base, keeping a good look-out thence by my spies, to watch the enemy's mo-

tions; and on the second morning after I left the camp, the two armies approached within a quarter of a mile from each other. I could not perceive by their movements, that there would be any engagement that night; so that affording my men all the refreshment I could, I marched them to that end of the mountain which lay about a mile in flank of the enemy, where we halted till morning; then preparing for a move, upon a moment's warning, we lay by till the battle was joined; when spreading out twenty-five of my men, under the conduct of one of them, whom I appointed their leader, I ordered them to keep on a round trot, with their line extended, at the distance of two yards between man and man, till I should order an halt. I led the second twenty-five men myself, about fifty yards behind the first rank, with command for the third, fourth, and to the twelfth line, to follow each other, in the same order, and at equal distance. Now these several bodies extending so far upon the plain, from the turn of the foot of the mountain, and still dropping in one after another, caused the enemy to be apprehensive that more might still be behind, and not knowing how many more might flank them, lest they should be hemmed in by a double flight of arrows, they made a side retreat, to draw us all into the front; but *Abluffcar* forcing them at the same time in the van, and my men having orders to advance upon gallop, and draw up in their rear, their route became unavoidable. The enemy king used all his skill to rally his dispersed troops, but to little purpose, his utmost efforts not collecting above five hundred chosen men round him, mostly foot; which I observing, and calling off my men from the pursuit, I drew them into a square; and marching up to the king, we forced the outlines which surrounded him, and pressed up to his elephant. He fought with the most undaunted courage and resolution, killing three of my men with his own hand, by javelins; all which having now spent, he made a thrust at me with his spear; which I parried by, and at the instant seizing, by an unexpected jerk, forced him from his elephant, the point of his spe-

running at the same time through my own horse's neck. The king was no sooner down, than I had descended from my beast, and extended my hand to raise him up (my men inclosing us in a circle); but he spurned away my arm, and was drawing his sabre as he lay; when catching him by the beard, I disarmed him; and using him somewhat more roughly, I mounted him on one of my dead men's horses; and crossing another myself, I (holding his bridle) galloped off with him to *Abluffear*, whose men, except a few about his person, were pursuing the enemy with great slaughter.

Abluffear was amazed at beholding the enemy king in his power, when I presented him; and showed such tokens of his favourable acceptance of my services, that he embraced me for some time, gave me the name of *Arshreff*, or general, and kept me, for the most part, near his person, for the rest of the campaign; for we carried the enemy king in chains through his dominions, plundering and sacking not only his capital, but every town of note; and at our return drove home to *Melinde* above six thousand prisoners.

Abluffear having received so brilliant a victory, was resolved to enter his royal city in the most splendid and magnificent manner his state would admit of. We accordingly encamped for several days without the city, till preparations were made for our reception; and on the day appointed, all the royal elephants being introduced to the camp, with every instrument of music, and other rejoicings which the city contained, we began the procession by a march of soldiers; then a select number of slaves, guarded; and so alternately, several bodies of each; then music. The king's elephants, two and two. *Abluffear* standing on his elephant, with his javelin in his hand. The enemy king on foot, in chains. Then guards and slaves, alternately following, closed the procession.

We marched in this order through the city to the royal palace, amidst the joyous acclamations of the populace; upon entry of which, the guards and slaves drew up round the outer court, while the king, myself,

the captive king, and his elephants, with a party of body-guards, passed on to an inner court, over the arch-way leading to my dear *Sally's* apartment. The noise, hurry, and confusion of the day had drawn her to the lattice, which overlooked the arch we were to pass through; where she no sooner beheld me living, and placed so near his majesty, distinguished likewise by my elephant, on which creatures none other than the king and myself were advanced, than she, in her eagerness to come at me, tore down the lattice-work; and leaning out half her body, welcomed his majesty's return, and thanked him for the mark of his benevolence (meaning me) which she had discovered, she said, behind him; but we welcomed each other by our eyes only. I was terribly afraid lest this behaviour of *Sally* should exasperate his majesty to both our undoing; but he seemed rather delighted at her transport, ordering her immediately to be conducted to the great hall, to meet us at our alighting. His majesty being seated, all his nobles took their stands around him, and paid him homage. Then calling me by name, he placed me on his left-hand, and the captive king at his foot-stool, declaring publicly that I was his *Arshree*, and that the victory was entirely owing to me, commanding all orders and degrees of his subjects to pay me reverence, next to himself. By this time, *Sally* was entered through the crowd at the lower end of the room; when his majesty beckoned to her to approach him; and himself arising, met her half-way; then saluting her, he led her toward a seat, where he placed her at his right-hand; then rising again, and taking me in his left, and her in his right, and bringing both forward, he publicly declared, that he had never met with an instance of conjugal affection so engaging as in us two. He then gave me my wife again. "Let no man from henceforth," said he, "dare to disturb the unity, which I hereby confirm to you, on penalty of being utterly consumed, both himself and his, by fire." We both bowed, and on our knees acknowledged his majesty's royal clemency to us. Then

dering the captive king to close confinement, he invited all his court to a magnificent repast prepared for them. *Sally* and I had a lodging and attendants provided us, very near the king's own apartment; and now we had once more a prospect of enjoying each other in a manner suited to our mutual wishes.

No sooner were we settled in our new apartment, than I desired *Sally* to inform me of all that had befallen her, since her being carried away from me. She assured me, that as to her restraint, both in her journey and after her arrival at the palace, it had appeared as nothing, she being treated with all possible regard and humanity; but that her sufferings arose from her ignorance of my fate, not knowing that I existed, till her own eyes beheld me in my elevation, next to the king's own person; which preferment, by what means I obtained, she besought me to inform her. I then ran over to her the discourse between the king and me, and my proceedings, till I had taken the enemy king prisoner, with his majesty's beneficence consequent on that exploit. Many days had not passed since our return, before *Abluffcar* informed me that his courtiers had advised him to put *Fu-Nabib* (that being the name of the captive king) to death; for that should he by any means escape his hands, his country being large, and very populous, fresh commotions would most probably arise, which would make his majesty's nation a seat of long and destructive wars; desiring my opinion, in what manner it would be best to proceed with *Fu-Nabib*, either by death, or perpetual imprisonment; for that in case of the latter, he was satisfied that his subjects, who sincerely loved him, would chuse no other sovereign during his life-time, and that of themselves they would never be able to make head against him. Here his majesty paused to hear my judgment; when I replied, that if his majesty would patiently permit me freely to deliver my sentiments, and pardon my dissent from either of the methods he had mentioned, I would declare my opinion, without the least reserve. He promised me that he would. I

then replied, that I had understood from report, that *Fu-Nabib's* dominions were larger, and his subjects more numerous, than his majesty's; and that it had heretofore been the policy of his majesty's state to keep a good understanding with *Fu-Nabib*, for avoiding the incommodioufness of war; and that even the last was of *Fu-Nabib's* own seeking; all which the king acknowledged to be true. I then told him, that by *Fu-Nabib's* death, he would only raise to himself a new enemy in his successor; and as for his confinement for life, it was more than probable, that the state would promote some head to revenge his quarrel; when, if by force or stratagem, they should procure *Fu-Nabib's* liberty, I need not declare the consequences that might even attend his majesty's own person, should he be subject to the captive king's circumstances; for that the fortune of war was uncertain. Upon the whole, I gave it as my opinion, that his majesty should loose the fetters of *Fu-Nabib*, use him nobly, take him into his familiarity, dismiss him graciously; and that, even upon such terms as himself should propose; nor too rigorously exact even a literal execution of them. That parting thus in amity, if *Fu-Nabib* had any honour in his composition, it would exhibit itself by friendly offices, and affection to his majesty, rather than in the prosecution of his late quarrel; or at worst, should he relinquish the ties of gratitude, his majesty could with better assurance defend an injury intended him, and his subjects would much more readily engage in his defence, against the aggressor. The king had remained very attentive to my speech; till having concluded, "*Bang-well*," said he, (for that was the name he gave me) you are a fierce man by your actions, and yet in words are all softness and delicacy. I expected, that you would have counselled me to cut *Fu-Nabib* to pieces, as a terror to his countrymen, for prevention of their engaging with me again; but you are for using him as a friend and companion. Whence can this proceed?" I replied, from a sense of his majesty's interest, and from my attachment to his person; for I added, that

his benevolence would so move my affection, as to interest myself in his welfare; whereas his mal-treatment of me would rouse both my indignation and vengeance against him. "Brave men," continued I, "are ever endued with humane natures; and as they are stirred to emulation in battle, so are they in every virtuous and praiseworthy action; for the same spirit that excites in them the one, never fails to excite the other also; their favourite principle being—NEVER TO BE OUTDONE." *Abluffcar* by degrees inclining to my sentiments, gave me commission to treat with the captive king for his enlargement, in such manner as I pleased; engaging upon his word, to ratify whatever I should conclude with him.

Having made my acknowledgements to the king for the confidence he reposed in me, I proceeded to the dungeon wherein the imprisoned monarch was confined. I found him lying upon an heap of loose straw, in the corner of a dark loathsome cell, with only one narrow chink near the ceiling, for the introduction of a small glimmer of light. The horror that this dismal sight occasioned in me, was inexpressible; when I recollected him in the light which but a few days before he had appeared in, at the head of a gallant army, lord of a vast territory, and sovereign of the lives and properties of many hundred thousand beings. I saluted him by his title of majesty; which word I could plainly perceive drew tears from his eyes; when rising up, he boldly demanded my message to him—whether I came from *Abluffcar*; and if I brought with me the sentence of his death. "Puissant monarch," replied I, "though by the present turn of war, you are now rendered captive for a time; this but shows the uncertainty of human grandeur, and what may be the change of the mightiest man's condition, in the twinkling of an eye; and should teach us all this lesson, that in prosperity, encircled with all worldly glory, and every temporal advantage, we should exercise ourselves in gentleness and compassion for all men; for there is not that despicable wretch breathing, but in some capacity or other, at proper opportunities, may be ca-

pable of distressing us. My master is clearly of this opinion, and is in hopes your majesty's sentiments accord with his. His tenderness for your majesty's misfortunes has so affected his mind, that he can no longer suffer you a king, his brother, to endure the miseries of this close restraint; but, by me, invites you to partake the delights of his court, in equal degree with himself, barely upon your own parol for your gentle demeanor, till such terms shall be stipulated between you, for your mutual confidence in each other, as his justice may demand, and yourself accord with honour."

"Great Sir," said *Fu-Nabib*, "you are now a double conqueror. I must confess myself the second time vanquished by you; nor can I say, but that this last is far the more glorious victory. The distance of the news you fill my ears with, from my prior conception of things in my situation, but demonstrates (what hath often occurred to me) the imbecillity of the human capacity. That the affairs of mortals are subject to a superior direction, I can now make no longer doubt, or the doom I have hitherto expected had never been reversed; but that you, whose prowess in the field I am but too sensible of, should contain two such opposite natures, is to me amazing; yet how much more amiable is this, than that! You have convinced my judgment, that as a man, I should submit to the vicissitudes of fortune; and by the sequel of your argument, have subdued the ferocity of my nature, and that studiousness of revenge that hath hitherto ingrossed my whole frame, and impressed me with sentiments of candour, benevolence, and amity for your master. He is my brother; and brethren let us remain in interest and affection. I am persuaded it will be best for us both, without wasting our subjects, to vie with each other in good offices; and methinks I feel, from the motives of his recent kindness, a flood of joy arising in my will, at the prospect of rendering him all suitable returns for his friendship to me; for that I must acknowledge it to be, as arising from him whose I now am. Tell your master I AM his slave, WOULD BE his friend, and WILL BE his brother, without reserve."

Expressing my satisfaction at *Fu-Nabib's* declaration, I assured him, that I could not consent to leave him in that loathsome place, even while I related his answer to my master; so I invited him to my lodgings, where I said I would place no guard over a man of that honour I took him to be; or that if he rather chose to regale himself in any other part of the palace, he should meet no restraint. He thanked me, but said he would remain in my lodgings till I returned.

When I had related the conference between us, I persuaded *Abluffcar* to grant *Fu-Nabib* an immediate audience, and to express such evidences of real inclination for him as he should judge proper, and not to treat him too unequally. He said, as he had began by my advice, he was determined to pursue it through the whole affair. I accordingly introduced *Fu-Nabib*, as his majesty was sitting on his throne. No sooner had the captive king entered the hall, and made his obeisance to the presence, than *Abluffcar* rising, met him halfway; nor would he permit those tokens of subjection which *Fu-Nabib* readily offered to pay him; but saluting him, led him to the throne, where he placed him on the same seat with himself.

The two kings thus seated, paid each other every compliment and return suitable to the occasion. *Abluffcar* then declared *Fu-Nabib* at liberty to act and behave as he saw fit in his palace, or elsewhere; but hoped he would spend some little time with him, before his return to his own country, that a strict and indissoluble alliance and confederacy might be cemented between them, for their future amity; and that as for the captives taken in the war, such of them as fell to his majesty's share should attend *Fu-Nabib*, at his return to his own dominions. Then each king embracing the other, swore truth and fidelity to such future articles as should be stipulated between them; the whole transaction concluding with a most magnificent entertainment; and from that day, till about fourteen others, which *Fu-Nabib* spent at *Melinde*, he constantly ate at *Abluffcar's* table, and the greatest part

of their time was spent together; when *Fu-Nabib* at his departure, being laden with presents, and the return of all that had been taken from his palace, was escorted home, under a convoy of three thousand men. The dismissal of *Fu-Nabib* had not been transacted without several dissenting sentiments, which soon after his departure spread themselves in invectives against me, as the framer of that scheme, even till the king himself was almost persuaded that he had erred in his conduct; and where the flame would have ended is uncertain, had not the following accident intervened:

There had been for a considerable time disputes between the kings of *Ganze* and *Melinde*, in relation to the conveyance of slaves and merchandize, from the dominions of the former, through those of the latter, to the sea-coasts, without paying any acknowledgements to *Abluffcar*; and sometimes the number of men had been so great, as to give suspicion to *Abluffcar* of some ill designs. These disputes at length were wrought up to such a height, by *Abluffcar* seizing some of the commodities, that the king of *Ganze* raised all the strength of his dominions, with intent to force a free communication with the ocean.

Abluffcar was in no condition at present to repel the power of the *Ganzites*, by his own single forces, and the country were in great consternation; when I solicited the king to apply to *Fu-Nabib* for succour. The court were to a man absolutely against it; urging, that no better opportunity could be wished for by *Fu-Nabib* for retaliating *Abluffcar*'s injury, and the indignity of his confinement, than by seizing upon *Melinde* himself, while it should be engaged in war with the *Ganzites*; and this they seemed to lay down, as the certain consequence of any application to *Fu-Nabib*; for they held but a very mean opinion of faith between princes. I had no other means of diverting this storm from my own head, but by maintaining the steps I had already taken, and insisting on an embassy to *Fu-Nabib*, which I strenuously persisted in. Matters growing worse and worse daily, and no alternative to be con-

cluded on, my proposal was at length seemingly acquiesced in, though by many of the state members from the hopes they had that the ill consequences of it would redound to my destruction. But I, who could not possibly be in any worse condition from *Fu-Nabib's* attacking the whole country, than I then expected, still persevered in my determination of sending for the succours, which was at last agreed upon, though with extreme diffidence of the success. Upon return of this embassy, it was reported by the deputies in what a loving manner, and with what respect and magnificence they were received and entertained; and then they delivered from that monarch, that he would immediately march ten thousand of his forces to *Aoluffar's* assistance; and if he required it, would lead them in person. That in the mean time, he would fall upon the *Ganzites* to the westward, with another body of ten thousand, which he did not doubt, but by dividing the king of *Ganze's* forces, would so weaken him as to reduce him to submission. Adding further, that in case the proposed supply should be deficient for the purpose designed, he would follow them with the whole strength of his kingdom. This answer was no sooner delivered by the ambassadors, than the whole assembly of dissenting nobles hung down their heads, altogether ashamed of the insinuations with which they had infected the royal breast.

From this time their affairs seemed to wear a new face; and in the room of that lifelessness with which all their warlike preparations had hitherto been prosecuted, never was more alertness or expedition shown, either in collecting the forces, or in providing necessities for their accommodation; so that before a month had elapsed, we had near twenty thousand men in arms, horse and foot; and the reinforcement of ten thousand more were on their march to join them.

The *Ganzian* monarch was so distressed by the army drawing near to his capital, that he recalled part of his troops from the frontiers of *Melinde*; which transaction I having taken notice of sooner than the king,

besought *Abluffear* to let me march five thousand men only to *Ganze*, in order to join *Fu-Nabib*, where I was satisfied I should be of twice the service to his majesty's interest, as I could by leading his whole army to the frontiers; and having obtained his consent, I made forced marches with such expedition, that I joined *Fu-Nabib* before he had begun hostilities. The king of *Ganze* was so dejected at this news, that he withdrew from his capital, leaving only some few of his domestics, as a guard upon his women and relations, whom he had confined there. We plundered the palace, and burnt it to the ground, first releasing all the prisoners; but the guards had driven out all the women by a back-way; which we having notice of, pursued, and took them, after a sharp rencounter. How was I both rejoiced and amazed, at meeting with my old friend *La Bruce* among the captive women! She knew me at first sight, though I did not readily recollect her, till she spoke to me, crying out for mercy. I then ordered her under a select guard; and when the hurry of the day was over, I inquired after *Malack*, whether she knew what was become of him. She replied, that he was in the king's guards, and was fled with him at our approach. Though I had a thousand things to say, and a thousand things to ask her; yet having very little time for present discourse, I ordered her away to our camp. I then consulted with *Fu-Nabib*, whether we should pursue the fugitive king; which he advising to, as the speediest means of procuring peace, we went upon the enterprize; but he having only a small number of selected men with him, and those all of the horse, we soon discovered the impracticability of bringing him to a battle; whereupon we sent him conditions of peace; which consisting but of few articles, he complied with; and *Fu-Nabib* and I withdrawing our troops, left him free entrance to his capital.

One of these articles was, that he should deliver into my hands *Malack* one of his guards, who was to be returned to me with the articles. This the king complying with, poor *Malack* (wholly ignorant what

friend
prehen
death
guilty
rest of
a malef
I pur
my visa
before
face, th
to my r
was th
from fa
Malack
knees,
you onc
own co
aid tha
he was
him, th
confined
erved."
upon wh
It wa
as met
of which
appene
er loss
erring t
private p
resented
to *Ganze*
assage t
without
ther me
he bear
ould no
ay on th
nd that
oute. A
such g

friend he had so near him) was under dreadful apprehensions of some immediate punishment, if not of death itself; but could not guess what he had been guilty of that should be more criminal in him than the rest of his comrades. However, he was conducted as a malefactor to me, with his hands tied behind him.

I purposed, upon his first appearance, to contract my visage into pleats of terror, to have alarmed him before I discovered myself; but I no sooner beheld his face, than the former passages of our lives recurring to my mind, my resolution failed me, and (exalted as I was then so far above him) could not restrain myself from falling on his neck. "O my dear *Neve*," said *Malack*, sinking down before me, and embracing my knees, "have I lived to this good purpose, to serve you once more?" I told him, that he had, and, by my own consent, should never more leave me. "Ah!" said that good creature, "is my *Nes* living?" I said he was, and would be no less rejoiced at the sight of him, than myself. "But," said he, "*La Bruce* is still confined. Release her too, or I shall be but half preserved." I replied, that she was then in my camp; upon which he was extremely delighted.

It was at my return from this expedition, that I was met by the news of my wife's death; the shock of which was scarce supportable by me. But as it had happened by the operation of nature only, I sustained her loss with as little sorrow as I possibly could, preferring the king's business to the indulgence of my own private passion. I alighted first at his apartment, and presented him with the instrument of peace; whereby *Ganzite*, from henceforward, was to claim any passage through his majesty's territories to the ocean, without being subject to such duties for slaves, and other merchandizes, as were therein stipulated. That the bearers and conductors of such goods and slaves should not exceed a limited number at one time, nor lay on the coasts above a certain space, without leave; and that they should both pass and repass by one stated route. And in case of the breach of the above articles, all such goods and slaves should become lawful prize.

This capitulation being published in the assembly, was instantly approved by all; and the king having ratified it, it was transmitted to *Ganze*.

Having settled the tranquillity of the state, I retired to my own apartment, where the melancholy prospect of my deceased wife, as yet unburied, imbibited every seeming satisfaction, and ingrossed my whole attention. I collected from the report of my domestics, that an obstinate fever had carried her off, in about six days, in opposition to every effort that could be attempted for her relief. I buried her with all becoming decency, after the manner of the country; and having spent some weeks in reflection and contemplation of her virtues, I resumed my public function in the state again.

La Bruce and *Malack* were now my sole assistants and privy-counsellors; for I could not endure to see *Malack*, who had with such constancy and delight attached himself to me, remain any longer in the near capacity of a slave. I therefore united him in participation of my grandeur, and received him to my bosom as a friend; in which relation his integrity ceased not to display itself in the minutest instances; though all my endeavours for his advancement would never induce him, personally, as to myself, to take upon him more than the form of a servant. *La Bruce* managed all the concerns of my family, and was the partner of all my solitudes; and except that affectionate interest which arises from the union of bodies as well as minds, was, in all outward regards, of equal comfort to me as my wife had been. When I was become publicly conversable in my family, I inquired of *La Bruce*, what had happened to her and *Malack*, from the time that I made my escape with *Sally* from the villains. She replied, that immediately after her flight, some of them confined her and *Malack*, while the horsemen pursued us; but of what was become of us none of them could give the least account, at their return next day to the companions. She added, that she had no reason to complain of their treatment to her for some days; but having spied some travellers at a prodigious distance passing a vast desert, they went upon the pursuit

them, leaving her behind, with only one keeper, in a small growth of bushes and underwood, where they ordered them to remain till their return; having given her guard a strict command not to be anyways rude or abusive to her. Notwithstanding this injunction, they were no sooner gone, than the fellow formed a design of violating her chastity. She having declared her abhorrence of the speeches he uttered to her, he proceeded to force; and after long struggling, till she became so feeble that she had not the least strength for resistance, he was on the point of accomplishing his brutality; when, almost driven to despair, she discovered a short dagger hanging by his side, within her reach; when collecting all her vigour, she instantly drew it, and plunged it to the hilt in his side; which in a few minutes put a period to his existence.

After debating in her mind what plan was best to adopt, she resolved to wait the issue where she was, and to submit to such consequences as should attend the truth of the fact, and to that only.

In this state of mind she remained till the next morning began to dawn; when rising from her seat, and looking around her, she beheld the robbers returning. Rousing up her resolution, as they advanced, she went forward to meet them. Then desiring them to halt a moment, she fell on her knees before them, and declared the truth of every circumstance of their companion's death. They all paused awhile; when one of them, ordering her to rise from her knees, in the name of them all commended her conduct and resolution. She then returned with them to the thicket; where, after examining the body, they buried it.

She remained with them in this strolling way of life for a long time; till being arrived much nearer home than they were at first, *Malack* and she were dispatched away with five guards only, to the court of *Ganze*, and there separated, *Malack* to a post among the king's guards, and herself to the apartment of the king's mistresses. But the fatigue she had undergone in her travels, and the anxiety she had suffered in her

mind, before she had been there a fortnight, threw her into such an ill state of health, that she expected every day to die; so that she had never as yet seen the king; for she had been but a few weeks recovered before I liberated her. *La Bruce* had no sooner finished her relation, than she intreated me to give her an account of myself and *Sally*, since our separation from her and *Malack*, and by what means I became held in so great esteem by *Abluffcar*; all which having informed her of, she replied, that I being so great at *Melinde*, she presumed I should scarce ever entertain thoughts of returning to *England* again. I paused a little upon what she said; for I should not have declared my sentiments to every one; but having received so many convincing proofs of her attachment to me, I replied, that I had been long ruminating on that event, but particularly since the death of my wife; that my inclination had, from that time, tended with much more earnestness toward home; and that the surest means that I could propose to myself was, to steal off to some of the *Portuguese* factories; from whence I doubted not of procuring a passage to *Europe*.

La Bruce, who had all along listened very attentively to my discourse, hoped, she said, that I would make some provision for her return too; for that she should be very miserable in being left alone, without one friend in the country. Her earnest desire for joining in my flight (for I was well assured that *Abluffcar* would never consent to my departure) introduced frequent conferences between us on that head, and various measures had at times been debated between us for its accomplishment; when a deputy arrived from a *Portuguese* settlement on the coast, to crave some immunities for their subjects within his majesty's dominions. This *Portuguese* applied to me for his introduction to the king, offering some presents, which he had brought for the speedier dispatch of his negotiation. Having heard his request, I refused his gifts; but assured him, that the matter of his petition not appearing to me prejudicial to his majesty, I would pro-

cure
gratifi
mean
der th
the le
him n
He
factor
him, c
ber of
extent
at the
him; f
I th
settlen
ment,
riches
these,
for my
factory
convey
mong t
my req
for my
that wh
presenc
speed.
whom
and wh
form-sa
about t
ried, no
tion, bu
whom l
dation,
As so
topics o
that she
man as
ceeding

secure him satisfaction in it, upon his engagement to gratify me in a demand I should make; and in the mean time, to reserve to himself the subject of it, under the strictest tie of secrecy; and that he might have the less opportunity of divulging it to any one, I offered him my house, till his affairs should require a return.

He assured me, that my readiness to oblige the factory not only heaped indispensable obligations on him, their representative, but on each particular member of their body; and that whatever lay within the extent of their power, I had only to command; and at the same time, desired me to place all confidence in him; for that not a syllable should transpire from him.

I then acquainted him with my first accidental settlement in this country, the means of my advancement, and the esteem the king held me in, with the riches that I had procured in his service; but none of these, I told him, could balance the propensity I had for my native country; and that the favour which the factory could oblige me in was, only to further my conveyance to *Europe*, whenever I should appear among them, with my family. I had scarcely hinted my request, before he replied, that he blamed me not for my attachment to the place of my nativity; and that whenever I pleased to honour the factory with my presence, I should be forwarded with all possible speed. I conducted him to an audience of the king, whom I had previously acquainted with his business, and whose consent was now to be demanded only for form-sake. Where having obtained his desire, after about ten days stay with me, he returned highly satisfied, not only with the speedy success of his negotiation, but with his kind entertainment from me, to whom he gave the strongest assurances of accommodation, on my arrival at the factory.

As soon as the *Portuguese* was gone, I related the topics of our discourse to *La Bruce*; who told me, that she looked upon him to be as polished a gentleman as she had ever seen; and that he had been exceedingly complaisant to her; inasmuch, that she al-

most suspected him for a lover. I had ever, from the first view I had of *La Bruce* on the back of her elephant, in my own imagination conceived her to be the most engaging person of her sex; though my inviolable attachment for *Sally* had ever stifled those or any other suggestions to her prejudice; but since her death, they had daily more and more predominated, in favour of *La Bruce*, till I had determined to offer her marriage, as soon as a decent regard to *Sally's* memory would permit me. *La Bruce* having now roused my jealousy by the seeming satisfaction with which she mentioned the *Portuguese*, and his compliments to her; I could no longer forbear disclosing my own sentiments to her. "O, *La Bruce*!" said I, "what has this stranger done! What disquiet hath he engendered in my tortured breast! I perceive that you love him, and I am lost." Her cheeks reddened like scarlet, and she seemed totally confounded at what I had uttered. "Mr. *Bingfield*," replied she, "you amaze me by the vehemence with which you seem to be agitated. But what can you possibly mean by it? or wherein can he have injured you? No, believe me, Sir, I am as secret in your concerns as your own heart, and from no motives upon earth can be biassed to prove false to you."

"My dear *La Bruce*," said I, "you misunderstand me. I never suspected your disclosing my secrets, or being false-hearted to me in that respect; but I am confounded at the necessity I lie under (so suddenly after the death of a wife), of declaring, that if I find not her equal in you, I am an undone man. You, and you only, have it in your power to render me for ever the happiest, or most miserable among mortals."

La Bruce had no sooner heard me, than she declared that the expressions I had made of my affection to her could not but convey the most sensible delight to her; for that I was already satisfied her obligations to me were already too accumulated to permit her to oppose my inclination in any thing, much less in what would redound so much to her own honour and felicity.

Having thus fairly agreed upon preliminaries,

from henceforth looked upon, and behaved toward each other as man and wife, in interest and affection, to be confirmed as soon as we should arrive at the *Portuguese* factory; but how to bring about our departure unsuspected, was our chief difficulty. After forming various schemes, a thought took my fancy, that to indicate a design of establishing myself at *Melinde*, would be the readiest means of rendering myself less suspected by the king. I accordingly gave out, that I purposed to remove from the apartment his majesty had been pleased to assign me, as being too incommodious for my views, and to erect a superb building for myself and posterity; and as I had no children by my first wife, I would now marry again. I then applied to his majesty for a piece of ground, formerly inclosed for a park, about three miles from the palace, which had only a small banqueting-house upon it, whither his majesty very seldom retired to; under an assurance, that intending to marry and settle in that country, I would thereon establish my family. The king, who desired nothing more than to fix me in his dominions, made not the least scruple of granting my petition; so that I now set about my new project, with all possible show of perseverance. My presence at court being not now much expected; that I might the better absent myself some days from my workmen, I gave out that business would detain me for some time in the city; when all my treasure being packed up (for I had converted most of my money into jewels), I took *Malack* and *La Bruce* with me; and turning from the road, we rode toward the sea-coast, for sixteen hours, without any other intermission than what was absolutely necessary for the refreshment of ourselves and cattle. In short, putting the horses to the stretch, and allowing them only such rest that they might not fail us, in a very few days we arrived at the *Portuguese* settlement.

The first person whom we inquired for upon our arrival was *Gomarez* (that being the name of the *Portuguese* merchant who had been with me at *Melinde*); who not only welcomed us himself, but introduced us to the factory, who all did the same; expressing the

obligation they were under to me for the dispatch they had met with at *Melinde*. They told me, they had been informed by *Gomarez*, of the request I made to him, with which they would most cheerfully comply, by the first shipping that returned; and were very sorry, for my sake, that it would be some months first, as the vessels, destined for *Europe*, were but lately departed; but hoped I would not be uneasy at my stay, for that the factory would take charge both of our persons and concerns, and that we should be entertained at their expence till we sailed. We had not been many days in our apartment, before each of the factory, in their turns, had complimented us singly; and several of them having one evening invited me to a collation, I told them, that as I was likely to stop so long with them, I would beg the favour of one of their priests to lend me his assistance, in marrying me to a lady I had brought with me for that purpose; at the same time, making one general invitation of the whole factory, not only to assist at the ceremony itself, but to partake of an entertainment which I would prepare for them afterward. My marriage, and the invitation to it, infused a universal glee through the whole company, they all promising to be of the party; and I desired them to invite all the absent members. We then appointed that day se'nnight, when we were to meet at my apartment, and to march to the church in a full body. When that day arrived, they all attended.

My marriage with *La Bruce* being solemnized, we remained with the factory in the most agreeable manner; but while we were enjoying ourselves under this security, we received advice, that a message was arriving from *Abluffcar*, to demand the delivery of me into his hands. The factory would by no means submit to deliver me up, to whom they had voluntarily afforded both their protection and regard; nor did they chuse to draw upon themselves *Abluffcar's* resentment. But the messengers not yet being arrived, a council was convened, at which I was desired to be present. Here they expressed their concern for my situation, and the desire they had of keeping fair with

Abluffcar
with
board
another
the
com
ship
prop
due
your
W
and
they
about
capt
after
reco
and
about
ing a
mean
rably
conv
havin
shou
I t
deter
neve
jecti
her
of lif
what
expo
and
cure
like
fate,
her
had
up w

Abluffcar; and as the only means of preserving me, with safety to themselves, proposed my embarking on board a small vessel, then in the river, and retiring to another *Portuguese* settlement, about sixty leagues to the southward, to whom they would give me a recommendation. I was so truly sensible of their friendship, and of the necessity of the measures they had proposed for my safety, that having rendered them all due acknowledgements for their past and present favours to me, I immediately embarked for my voyage.

While we were one day recapitulating our affairs, and congratulating each other upon the happy turn they had taken, and sailing smoothly before the wind, about the third day from our quitting the river, our captain spied a sail somewhat to windward, crowding after us with all her sail out. Having taken his glass to reconnoitre her, he less approved of her than before, and would have run for land, which he judged to lie about twenty leagues to our right; but the wind shifting a little, still kept him from his purpose; by which means, the chacing vessel had gained upon us considerably. In short, in a few hours after, the master was convinced that she was a pirate sloop, and that we, having no sufficient means of defence against her, should be compelled to submit.

I took my leave of my wife, assuring her that my determination was to die fighting; for that I could never survive the loss of her. She was so far from dejection, that she applauded my resolution; and though her efforts could at best, she said, prove but faint, and of little service, she would not fail to fall by me; but what she trembled at the most was, lest her sex should expose her to abuses and indignities from the crew; and begged me to inquire whether I could not procure her a spare sailor's habit, that she might appear like the rest of us; and then, let what would be our fate, she should submit with resignation. I procured her a spare dress of the master of the vessel, which she had but just time to put on, before the pirate came up with us.

She did not appear to be that formidable vessel that we had taken her for, but out-numbered us in hands three to one; for she had thirty-seven, and we but thirteen, myself, wife, and *Malack* included. We had some good cannon on board, and some swivel-guns on deck, with small arms sufficient; but then we wanted a supply of powder, which rendered our ordnance ineffectual. In this condition we maintained a fight till two of our hands and the master were killed; when, in spite of all my efforts to the contrary, the mate, who now ranked captain, struck the colours. The privateer boarded us directly, secured us, rummaged the vessel; and stripping such of us whose clothes were worth exchanging for their own, prepared to carry us into *Madagascar*, under the care of such of their own crew as they had put on board us. There were ten of us poor prisoners, with the two wounded men, who spent the first night most disconsolately in the place of our confinement; but the next day, the pirate-vessel coming along-side of us, we were removed into her; when we first understood, that the pirates, judging ours to be the cleaner and tighter vessel, had formed a design of cruising in her, and of sending their own home with us. They left us under sail for *Madagascar*; but on the fourth night, about midnight, there arose such an hurricane at south-west, that the nine hands, which they had left on board us, were by no means answerable to the demands of the ship; when fearing every moment that they should perish, they were compelled, for their own safety, to release five of us prisoners, to assist them in weathering this storm, of which number *Malack* and myself were two. *Malack* and I knew but little of the matter; but our three fellow-sailors were quite expert at the business. The main-sail, which was spread at the commencement of the business, so swayed the ship about, though it was in great measure torn from its stays, that we were apprehensive it would have overset us; for the fury of the wind so beat it against the rigging, that the pirates were afraid of mounting the shrouds to cut down, or

furl
that
upon
other
in gr
ment
of th
my i
top,
cated
that
lash
able
engag
that
woul
either
I t
instru
he sho
being
tugues
we be
helm,
This
remain
the de
one w
pirate
ing so
fury,
storm
them;
jumper
reduced
ately c
parts
and re
rant o
selves

furl it up; which one of our hands observing, and that without it the vessel must be over, offered himself upon that duty, while the rest were occupied about other things. Observing the fellow's courage, I was in great hopes that he would prove a proper instrument for my purpose, which was to become masters of the vessel; but having no other means of conveying my intent to him, I followed him up to the round top, regardless of the danger, and there communicated my design. He readily approving it, told me, that then he would not cut down the sail, but only lash her to the mast, that she might become serviceable to us, in case of success. I replied, that I would engage for the Black, who was a brave fellow; and that if he could prevail on the other two sailors, we would take all advantages of surprising the crew, and either kill or throw them overboard.

I then descended to the deck, and gave *Malack* his instructions, with strict orders not to begin to act, till he should observe myself and the sailors to halloo, this being the token we had agreed upon. When the *Portuguese* had descended, and cheered his companions, we began our operation, by two of us running to the helm, and calling out that the ship was splitting. This cry brought all the pirates forward; when the remaining three of us seizing some arms that lay on the deck, we hallooed; then two of us with pistols, one with a handspike, and the two who were with the pirates turning upon them, and in the scuffle disarming some, we drove them before us with such amazing fury, that the small remains of courage which the storm had still left them, entirely sunk and abandoned them; for three were killed downright, and one had jumped over-board at the first onset. We being now reduced to an equal number on both sides, immediately chained them separately to the masts, and other parts of the ship, that they might not cabal together; and releasing our companions, who as yet were ignorant of our proceedings on deck, we took upon ourselves the command of the vessel, and made the *Portu-*

gueze, to whom I had first discovered my scheme, captain of her; by which time day beginning to break, the wind had considerably abated.

No sooner had we made ourselves masters of the vessel, secured the prisoners, and peace restored again, than we held a consultation what course to steer to, not only to avoid the pirate, but to escape being met by any vessel from *Madagascar*. We were none of us very well acquainted with the instruments on board; but as we observed the pirate to cast away northward, we resolved to stretch over to south-eastward, in hopes of reaching some known shore, or meeting with some friendly ship to take us in. This course therefore we took; and in about a week's sailing, passing by a small island, we turned our prisoners on shore; but having very little provisions on board, we could not afford them more than would suffice for one meal or two.

None of us were much acquainted with the seas we were in. We were certain that we steered easterly; but in what latitude we were, none of us could determine. Our wind now slackening upon us, and what little there was making against our purpose, we made little or no way, but inclined still more and more to the south; when our provision being near consumed, we fell into short allowance, and in a week or ten days more even that was finished. We had still some water left; but were obliged to be sparing even of that, though the weather was so extremely hot, that we were never free from drought, even while the liquor was in our throats. It held out, however, till we had boiled down all the leather in the ship to a jelly, and eaten it, and even the vilest vermin we could come at.

In this dismal situation we were so weak, we could scarce crawl the deck; when missing one of our hands, we suspected that he must have died in the hold; for upon inquiry, it was some days since any of us had seen him. I then proposed to make a search for him; which when most of us had agreed to, one of the *Portuguese*, seeming very uneasy, told us, that on such a night, he being then on watch with the

abse
ing
plac
mal
he h
ing i
truth
stink
proc
our p
perm
from
perce
cause
vered
wrote
head
had b
Th
us all
again.
hands
was in
but no
hind f
Upo
man,
heaven
guilty
posed
that w
broug
sweet;
ating p
and the
and hac
The
relation
nish it
ad con
pon hi

absent man, believed that he fell over-board, he hearing a violent plunge in the water. But running to the place, and seeing nothing of him, he did not chuse to make any mention of it, lest it should be suspected that he had throw him in. We all blamed him for concealing it so long, verily believing that he had related the truth; but a day or two afterward, we smelt such a stink as almost poisoned us; and imagining it to have proceeded from the bilge-water in the hold, we fixed our pumps to extract it, as well as our strength would permit; but the pump voided but little, and that, far from being tainted with any such like smell as we perceived. This put us upon further search into the cause; when, to our unspeakable horror, we discovered the remains of the body of the poor absent wretch stowed into an empty water-cask, with the head beaten in; and observed, that abundance of slices had been cut from the most fleshy parts of him.

This unexpected sight struck such astonishment into us all, that we were scarcely able to recover the deck again. Recollecting ourselves a little, I desired that all hands might be called upon deck; when our number was incomplete by one man. Him we called by name; but no one answering, we, upon search, found him behind some goods in the hold.

Upon demanding what he knew of the murdered man, he fell on his knees; and asking pardon, first of heaven, and then of the whole crew, declared he was guilty of the death of his fellow-sailor, and had disposed of the body where we had found it; but added, that what he had done he was necessitated to do, through the mere impulse of hunger; that life was sweet; and that no longer able to endure the excruciating pangs of his appetite, he first knocked him down, and then conveying him into the cask, cut his throat, and had ever since subsisted upon his flesh.

The fellow was in such an agony during the whole relation, that it was scarce to be believed he could finish it. We ordered him into confinement, till we had conferred together upon his crime, and determined upon his sentence. At length, after several opinions,

our captain (as we called him) declared, it was his opinion that the delinquent had justly forfeited his life, for daring to take that of another, without the joint concurrence of the whole body, and giving the deceased an equal chance with the rest. "Therefore," added he, "my opinion is that he dies; and that the greatest benefit may redound from his death, let him be slain in such a manner, as that we may all reap the advantage of his flesh, for our necessary support."

The execution was no sooner agreed on than performed, by beheading the criminal; and in less than twenty minutes we had each of us devoured a part of the body, raw as it was. The captain then sending for a cleaver, chopped the rest of it to pieces on the deck; and having salted it, kept it under lock for further use.

Having through these means received new life and vigour, we consulted the compass, re-handled our tackling, and proceeded with that alacrity in our voyage as if no evil had hitherto befallen us; and our allowance was daily delivered to us, as regular as heretofore. But lo! time, the consumer of all things, wore out our hopes of relief with our food; and the last morsel being sparingly swallowed down, we returned to our former dejection and misery again.

After two whole days and nights total fast, our captain called us all together into the cabin, where he told us, that there was now a necessity that the whole crew must either be supplied, or soon perish; and as no relief appeared, but from the death of one of us for the support of the rest, he was ready to put it to the lot with us, who should be the sufferer.

There being no alternative, we all gradually consented, and the lots were cast; when, O horrible! Can I utter it? My dear, my loving wife, was destined for the victim. She received her doom with a smile; and taking me by the hand, "Mr. *Bingfield*," said she, "farewell. How happy were I to be the instrument of prolonging your life, only for a day! yet heaven only knows that it will not be for years to come."

I beheld, with trembling, each eye around me eager for feasting upon that lovely creature, and grudge-

ing
"N
on
mit
ven
cutla
own
me
"no
ficient
mine
fall,
gic e
me t
strike
tears
into
ment
life;
distre
specta
drew
was o
it floa
barber
tackle
that t
was h
fixteen
girt.
me wi
he, "
hath p
nate ad
sist, ti
dispose
at the
abled
tionless
the bu

ing me the parley of a short parting word with her. "No," said I, "my dearest *La Bruce*, the lot is fallen on *me*, not *you*; for can you imagine that I can submit to nourish my mortal frame with that repast heaven has provided for the soul?" Then snatching up a cutlass that lay by me, I was about to plunge it into my own breast; which she suspecting, interposed, clasped me in her arms; and joining her body close to mine, "now strike," said she; "that arm is of force sufficient to find its way through both; for only through mine shall it ever reach thy blood. No, either let me fall, by lot my due, or we will together make our tragic exit." I was sensible that she would not permit me to fall alone instead of her, and was about to strike; but observing that our affecting scene drew tears from each beholder, and that they rather softened into compassion for us, I withheld my hand a moment, further to urge my request for sparing her own life; when one of the crew, who (melted with our distress) had turned his head from the approaching spectacle, cried out, "A fish! a fish!" This sound drew every eye to the gunwale, and each invention was on the stretch how to obtain the prize; for though it floated, it was not dead. At length, they struck a barbed iron into its body, and with the help of our tackle drew it on board, where it appeared so lively, that till they had cautiously chopped off its tail, happy was he that stood furthest from its reach. It was about sixteen feet long, and two yards and a half round the girth. This noble acquisition brought our captain to me with excess of joy in his countenance. "Sir," said he, "restrain your sorrow for your lady. Providence hath preserved you for each other by this most fortunate accident, whereon I hope we shall be able to subsist, till the same wise hand will please otherways to dispose of us." We then went with him to the fish, at the further end of the deck; but it had been so disabled by the loss of its tail, that it was altogether motionless. So that with a blow or two on the head with the butt of the cleaver, they quite dispatched it. While

the crew were thus employed, my wife and I, truly sensible to what author we owed the preservation of both our beings, retired into the cabin, and vented our praises in the most exalted strains of gratitude to our merciful benefactor.

At our return to the deck, they had just ript up the belly of the fish, when its intrails burst out, and with them as fair and large a liver, as ever I saw extracted from an ox; but something presenting itself monstrous large and hard in its paunch, we laid open his under-jaws quite to the throat, to come at the entrance of it; and then we discovered what had created it such pain as to prevent its sinking. It was a large fish which it had swallowed tail foremost, whose gills having each a sharp spike next the shoulder, which spreading as the head approached to the gullet of the devourer, had hooked themselves into each side of the creature's throat, and prevented the head from following the rest of the body, which almost choaked the great fish. Here we had a double prize; for the smaller fish, upon taken it out whole, and almost yet alive, was as much as one man could handle, and must at least have weighed half an hundred weight, the greater one weighing little less than a quarter of a ton. We went all hands to work upon the small fish first; which being light diet, we feasted upon without controul, devouring very near half of it.

We salted down several casks of it, which lasted us a great while, till we had repaired all our tackle, and had gotten into sailing order again; but we had not been many days before the wind, when we spied a sail; which not bearing toward us, we fired a gun, and then another, as signals of our distress, and at length were answered, when she bore down right upon us. We hailed her, inquiring of what country she answered, she was of *Holland*, and bound to *Java*. Then stating our case, we begged that they would relieve us, having been almost starved. The *Dutchman* showed no reluctance in assisting us; but seeing so many, with a good tight ship under us, wondered at our

having been so long from port, when several were within fifty leagues of us; till we informed him the reason of it. Then offering to direct our future course, and to give us water to help out for the remainder of our voyage, he told us that we must shift for ourselves. The *Portuguese* sailors were well enough content with the *Dutchman's* civility, they being desirous of getting home as soon as possible; but for my part, I had rather have been landed on some desolate island, than to have returned with them. I therefore desired the skipper to receive myself, my wife, and servant on board, and that I would gratefully satisfy him for my passage, not in the least concerning myself whither he was going to. The skipper no sooner perceived a reward coming, than he quickly accepted us for his passengers; when quitting the *Portuguese*, and wishing them a safe voyage, we went on board him, taking our treasure with us; for the pirates, on quitting their own vessel for ours, had left behind them the articles they had before plundered us of.

Having so happily freed ourselves from our starving companions, and gotten on board a well-supplied vessel again, my wife and I enjoyed ourselves like rational creatures once more, having great deference paid us by the captain, to whom at times we gave an account of some of our adventures, as he also gave us of several occurrences, which in his sea-faring way of life, at times, had befallen him. "But," says he, "I met with an exceeding odd circumstance about a month ago. As I was sailing some leagues from port, some of my men reported, that they saw the head of some creature (as they imagined) above water, at a distance from the ship, which they supposed must be either that of a fish, or some other sea-animal; for they could perceive it to move, desiring me to take my glass, and observe it. I did so; but it was a good while before I had made out what it could be, though they said it was plainly in motion, and that rather obliquely from the ship; till taking another look, I plainly discerned somewhat like eyes; but the dazzle of the

water was so great, that I could not be positive. However, fetching a small compass that would clear it up, I ordered the helm a-weather, and drove round it. On my nearer advance, it appeared, by the head and face, to be a Negro swimming; 'but what,' says I, 'can possibly have brought him to this distance from land?' for I could see no boat or canoe near. 'Then, what can be the reason of his avoiding the ship thus? For the very noise of our sails, and the dash of the waters, must reach his ears, if his eyes have not gained a sight of us.' Being come within fifty yards of him, I hallooed out; when, though he turned his head and saw us, still keeping his way, I manned out my boat with eight hands, to take him; but he dived backward and forward under the boat, and showed great reluctance, employing every means that he could to avoid us; till at last my men catching her (for it was a young woman), brought her on board to me. I had her into my cabin, used her gently, did every manner of thing in my power to please her, offered her victuals, wine, sweetmeats; but all the art that ever I could use, would not make her in the least tractable, or compliant to any thing I proposed to her. Insomuch, that I had conceived a notion of her being a savage sea-monster, and not one of the human species, notwithstanding her similitude to us."

The captain having excited our curiosity, I desired to know whether she was living, or if he knew what was become of her. He replied, that she was still living, but chose the darkest recesses, where he believed she would confine herself till she died, without victuals or drink, if he did not daily carry it to her, and by good words, and obliging behaviour, almost compel her to eat it; for he said, that he had declared, it should be death to any of the crew even to converse with, much more to offer her any rudeness.

My wife and I both longed to see this unaccountable creature which the captain had given us such a description of, and begged we might be favoured with a view of her; but lest it should put my wife to the

blu
eve
na
the
cap
up
wh
she
dar
V
wit
I ne
por
her
for f
had
whic
from
and
used
her
she k
upon
thing
It
and
that
utter
her
three
that
desist
under
ping
eyes
cess
foot
her,
clasp
outcry
far the

blush, I asked him, whether she was still as naked as ever. He told me, no; for that he had given her a napkin to tie round her middle; and said, that was the only thing she ever seemed thankful for. The captain added further, that he often made her come up into his cabin, giving her a dram or a glass of wine, which she would now readily accept; but as soon as she had opportunity, would sneak off again into the dark corners. I then desired him to fetch her.

When she entered the cabin, I was highly pleased with her appearance; for of the black kind, I think I never beheld any thing so beautiful, strait, well-proportioned, and graceful in my whole life. We wished her to sit down, but could noways persuade her to it, for she was in pain to be gone again; but the captain had locked the door. We gave her a glass of punch, which she drank, and held me out the glass to take from her; when having viewed her for some time, and recollecting some few words that *Malack* had used when I first knew him, I, in his dialect, asked her how she did; being desirous of learning whether she knew the use of speech. She seemed a little livelier upon my asking that question, and muttered something; but I could not comprehend their meaning.

It then recurring to my mind, that possibly *Malack* and she might understand each other, I told my wife that I would call *Malack*; which word I had no sooner uttered, than she ran her head in my face, and laying her hand on mine, repeated *Malack, Malack*, two or three times. The captain imagining by her earnestness that she meant me some mischief, arose to make her desist; when I desired him to be easy, for that I was under no apprehension of harm from her. Then stepping to the cabin-door, and calling out *Malack*, her eyes glowed like coals of fire, and she looked with excess of pleasure on me. But no sooner had *Malack* set foot within the door, than she flew at him, and he at her, clinging round each other's neck, kissing and clasping each other, and making such a clatter and outcry in their language, that to us spectators it was far the most agreeable entertainment we had ever be-

held; nor were they to be parted, by any thing we could say to them. So that finding them in such close conference, my wife judged it decent for us to quit the room; and beckoning the captain out, we left them together for near an hour.

We sat down upon the deck, considering whence all this joy could arise to these two poor creatures; "for surely," says I, "this cannot be the mistress *Malack* hath so often mentioned." The captain then inquiring where I picked up *Malack*, I replied that I knew not; but gave him the history of my liberating him just before he was to have been put to death.

When we had chatted away near an hour, neither *Malack* nor his lady appearing, the captain and I went softly to the cabin-door, to see if they were asleep, for we heard not the least stir; but so far were they from it, that they were both still in their former employment, with their faces nestling in each other's breast, just as we had left them; nor when their love fit would end, was it very easy to guess, had we not slept in and interrupted them. "*Malack*," said I, "who have you here, that you rejoice so much to see?"—"O *Nerve*!" says he, "my dear *Hormunka*, that I left behind me when I went to die, and you freed me. O my dear *Hormunka*!"—then he kissed her again. "But how came it to pass," said I, "that the captain should find her in the sea, at such a distance from land?"—"O *Nerve*!" replied *Malack*, "there is the charming *Hormunka*. Where you meet so good, so kind, so loving *Hormunka*? O! me tell you, me tell you whole all."—"Hold a little," said I, "let me call your *Nefs*."—"O! ay, she hear all the loving *Hormunka*," said *Malack*. Then calling my wife; "My dear," said I, "*Malack* has met with his mistress, and is going to give an account how she came to be out at sea, when the captain took her up." I shall here give the reader *Malack*'s history of his lady, in his own words in *English*; who, after kissing her again and again, began:—

"When poor *Malack* was take prisoner in de wars, fighting for his broder, king of *Barka*, he left de ever dere *Hormunka* behind him. He love her; she love

him; long, long time, derely, derely. O! how could *Malack* leave *Hormunka*! But he must die, must fesse de enemies. You, *Neve*, make me free man. Now dere *Hormunka* was go to die, she say. O dere *Hormunka*! Wen she here me die, and den tink me ded, her fader, great lord, make her great sweetheart, great man. She no marry, she no marry, she die wid *Malack*; *Malack* die, she no live. She linger, she pine, she go die, she go no broad. She here from her maid, her sweetheart tell her, *Malack* no kill, but live. De great man beat *Malack* enemy, save *Malack*. O dere *Hormunka*! She see him, he say same ting, swear same ting, saw same ting, wid own eyes; was like to die dere. Tell me, *Hormunka* say, were *Malack* live? He say were. She fly to de sea, she swim, and swim. She find no land, till here she find *Malack*. O my dear *Hormunka*!"

Malack's story, though but short, was very expressive, and delivered with such an extacy, that we could noways avoid sympathizing in his joys; and poor *Hormunka*, who was now become a conversable creature, appeared as pleasant and agreeable a companion as ever I met with (for *Malack* interpreted between us); and she would rally and joke with all the freedom imaginable. My wife studied her dialect, and taught her *English*, growing exceedingly delighted with her; but it was with difficulty that we could muster up any thing to clothe her with, so that she might look somewhat womanly. At last, the captain found out an old night-gown, which, with some alterations, my wife wrought up into a decent garment, with which she was exceedingly delighted. I told *Malack*, that now he had met with his mistress, I supposed she would persuade him to seek his own country again; but he assured me, that he was so far from any inclination to it, that wherever I was, their duty would be to attend me; and hoped his *Nefs* would give *Hormunka* the pleasure of waiting her commands. I replied, that we had hitherto led a very wandering life; but should we ever be so happy as to reach the *English* shore, I hoped we should there be settled for the remainder of

our days; and since they both desired it, *Hormunka* and he should never leave us.

We were at this time touching at one of the Spice Islands, for a few days; when the captain being on shore, sent his boat to bring off *Hormunka* to him. She expressing her concern to *Malack*, he informed me of the orders, who was at as great a loss as himself; but the poor man having promised to go with her, my wife desired me to be of the party.

The captain, on our arrival, was confused at the sight of *Malack* and me; but having another person in close conference with him, we walked carelessly about till they had done. It was not long before I heard the person in discourse with the captain say, "Is not the man to be disposed of? I should like him; he is a strong-built fellow." This appeared to me as if the captain was disposing of the Negroes, at least of the woman. I had scarce formed my conjecture, before he called *Hormunka*; and in my hearing (taking her hand, and delivering it to the stranger) told her she must go with him. I then went up to the gentleman, and told him the woman he had just purchased was my servant's wife. He replied, that he wondered captain *Ruyter* should offer to impose upon him a disputable property; but as he had paid him an hundred dollars for her, unless I could procure him a return of his money, he would by no means part with her.

I then looked about for the captain; but during our debate, he had sneaked off; and by this time, having taken boat, was got good part of his way to the ship. I hallooed, and made all the noise I could, for him to return; but he gave me the deaf ear; and ere long, he being arrived at the ship, we saw her under sail, steering off from the shore.

A number of persons having collected themselves about us, I offered a very handsome reward to the person who would carry me to *Java*, whither I assured them the captain was bound. At length a jolly young fellow standing by me, told me he was to depart in four or five days for *Malabar*; and that if I would

fatist
W
also
and
Mala
be de
Du
which
reflected
of gu
from
jectur
but c
saw a
fied r
flash
guns
famil
ing n
ling s
havin
ened
discer
to all
treate
to its
ward
nen e
reflec
poker
board
is to
ame
with
pletel
It i
uffer
he le
f my
bserv

satisfy him, he would touch at *Java*, and land me there.

We were not long agreeing upon terms. I agreed also with the purchaser of *Hormunka*, for an hundred and ten dollars for her ransom, and proposed to leave *Malack* with his mistress; for I judged that it would be death to both, to part them again.

During this interval, a most dreadful storm arose, which continued several days. One morning, as I lay reflecting in bed before day-break, I heard the firing of guns; which continuing till it was light, I looked from my window, which fronted the sea, where I conjectured that I saw something black at a vast distance, but could not discover what it was; till presently I saw a flash, and soon heard another gun, which satisfied me that it was a ship in distress, and that, by the flash arising from thence, they must have been signal-guns that I had before heard. I immediately raised the family, and some of the neighbours; and the wind being now much abated, though there was still a swelling sea, we all ran to the shore; when the ship either having drove nearer to us, or the day having brightened more than when I first discovered it, we plainly discerned it to be a large vessel, without the least stump to all appearance, showing itself above deck. I entreated the people of the country to send some boats to its assistance. Having obtained some, we put forward with two large fishing-boats, manned with six men each, moving with all our might toward the distressed barque, which the nearer we approached to, looked the more like a wreck. The poor creatures on board were all upon the watch, and making signals to us to come on. She was so deep in the water when we came within distance of observing her, that stretching with all our force, we were afraid she would completely sink before we could reach her.

It is impossible for any man, who has not before suffered the same circumstances with myself, to form the least idea of the agitation of my mind, at the sight of my wife, on the side of the sinking ship; but she observing me, and calling to me for help, I gave her

my hand, took her into my boat, and kissed her; then asking her what was become of captain *Ruyter*, she told me, that on sight of me in the boat he was run between decks, vowing that he chose rather to perish with the ship, than to face me. I asking her what she had in her bundle under her arm, she told me, my treasure, which I had left on board; for that it had lain neglected, till she saw the boats coming; but that she then seized it, being in hopes of saving it with herself. I could not suffer the captain to perish; so that having fixed my wife in safety, I stept over the gunwale, and called captain *Ruyter*, assuring him that I remained his friend, and the more so, being informed of his remorse for his late inconsiderate action. The captain demanded, whether I could forgive him. I replied, that I could, and did, now I was in possession of my wife again. He then ascending the deck, I gave him my hand, and he begged my pardon.

I inquired into the state of his ship, which he replied was sinking, merely for want of hands to supply the pump; for that his men were so fatigued with labour, night and day, that they could no longer raise the handle. I replied, that if there was but a possibility of bringing her to land, we would tend her with the boats, and that our fresh hands should bestir themselves at the pump. On his thinking this not to be impracticable, I set the example myself; and encouraging the new men to assist, we soon lowered the water; and by this time several other boats arriving we so drained her, that not having much above a league to land, and the wind favouring, before evening we had secured her out of danger.

Being at leisure once more to solace with my loving wife, I inquired how she had fared in my absence. She told me, that upon the captain's return, it was visible that somewhat had very much discomposed him. That she did not then imagine but that he was to have gone off again; till hearing him give orders for sailing, she demanded, where he had left me. He replied, "on shore." She insisting that the boat should be sent for

me, he sharply replied, that he knew of no business I had there; and that, as it was without his knowledge I went thither, I might get off again in the best manner I could. In vain, she said, were all her cries and intreaties; he was wholly regardless of them, and kept on his way. I said, I hoped that he had offered no insult or abuse to her. She answered, no; but so far from it, that whenever she could check her indignation sufficiently to talk, or behave calmly to him, he, on his part, acted with the strictest honour and complaisance to her; "but," said she, "the tempest had no sooner fallen on us, than he desired my prayers for him, and the preservation of the vessel; confessing that he had been too rash in what he had done."

The storm, she said, noways abating, the next day they perceived the water rising very fast in the hold; when being apprehensive of sinking, he came into the cabin to her. "O!" says he, "this is all come upon us for my sake. Wretch that I am! I betrayed the helpless *Hormunka* to shore; and what is worse, have sold her to slavery; and now is divine vengeance overtaking me. Then, what will my ill-gotten gain profit me?" This, she told me, was the first word she had ever heard of *Hormunka's* servitude.

The next day, I waited on the captain at his lodgings, taking *Malack*, *Hormunka*, and the purchaser with me. He turned as pale as a sheet at our entrance. I expostulated with him on the injustice of selling my servant's wife, without applying to me for any expence he had incurred on her account. Having since his escape taken somewhat more heart than he had in his danger, he replied, that the woman was his property; that he had made her his prize, and had an authority to dispose of her as he saw fit; that he took her up at sea, where she must have perished without him; and thought therefore she was fairly his own. "Then captain," said I, "I took you up yesterday, where you must have perished without me; and must therefore, from your own argument, insist upon your being my property; but I am willing to ransom you for the price of the woman you have so injuriously disposed of."

The purchaser then demanded his money from the captain, and he would free her. *Ruyter* could not well tell what to say to it; till my persisting in it to the last brought a return of the money, and we procured her discharge; after which, I made the captain a present of a pearl, of about twenty pounds value, as a recompence for the charge and trouble he had been at, in taking and keeping *Hormunka*; which appeasing him, made all up again.

Ruyter had put his ship under repair, and was in hopes of sailing in about six weeks; but having promised my wife never to board him again, we took passage in the ship I had agreed for before the storm, she being now refitted; and in her we arrived, in due time, at *Malabar*, where we tarried till some *European* vessel should arrive, to carry us toward *England*.

While we were waiting here, as my wife and I were walking about the town one day, we met with a near relation of hers, whom she had not seen for many years. He had touched there with a ship just arrived from *France*, and was proceeding to one of the *French* settlements on the coast, to reside there. She immediately recollected him, before she informed me who he was; but then directly, telling me that he was her near kinsman, and repeating his name to me, I turned about, and called him back, inquiring whether he knew that lady. He looking earnestly at her, replied no; he could not say that he did; till she smiling, and beginning to speak to him in *French*; "*Madam La Bruce!*" said he, "or I am very much mistaken." Then she calling him by his name, they renewed their former acquaintance. We kept an intimacy together during his stay, which was about ten days (ourselves being confined there almost three months); and had frequent conferences about her relations in *France*; in some of which he informed her of the death of her father, who, by the decease of her uncle in the war, where he was a general officer, had come into all his vast fortune, which her father had left between her and her sister, and her mother; that her sister dying the last summer, had left all that she had to her mother.

who was living when he left *France*, but in a very declining state of health. He advised her therefore, by all means, to make *Paris* in her way to *England*; for that when her mother should know her to be living, she would undoubtedly make her heir to all she possessed; which, if once in other hands (her mother already supposing her to be dead), would be a difficult matter to recover again.

I esteemed it a most happy event for us, to meet with this relation of my wife. We were not long resolving to make *Paris* our first stage; when luckily for us, the first ship that arrived, bound to *Europe*, was a *French* merchant-man, with the captain of whom we agreed, and soon after set sail.

We had a delightful voyage to *Brest*, where we landed; and after a few days refreshment, went post to *Paris*; and there hiring private lodgings, we soon put ourselves in condition for appearing in public.

We paid our first visit to Madame *La Bruce*, my wife's mother; by whom we were received in a very friendly and affectionate manner. We found her in a very infirm state of health, having long laboured under a disorder which had confined her to her room for upward of twelve months.

The old lady told us, that she had given over all ideas of her daughter's life; and having quitted all thoughts of the world, she only waited her dissolution; but hoped we might have many years enjoyment of each other; and as her time could be but short, she would not wish us to leave her house any more; where, after her death, we should find what would make us very happy. She then ordered her maid to bring her will out of the cabinet; which having taken in her hand, "daughter," said she, "imagining you to be dead, I had disposed of all my effects to distant relations, except one thousand louis d'ors to my servant *Doris*, who you know has lived most of her days in our family, and brought you up from your infancy. But I will now burn this instrument, and no one can claim a sou but yourself. Only remember this, that my

legacy to *Doris* must be paid, with such addition as your own generosity may make to it. This we both promised should be performed; and now I looked upon it that I should settle for the remainder of my life in a most agreeable manner.

We had not been at her mother's more than six weeks, when she died; nor stayed we longer in *Paris* (after the funeral) than to adjust our affairs, and procure proper remittances to *England*. Then embarking at *Calais*, we soon arrived safe at *Dover*.

After a short stay at this place, we set out for *London*, in search of my mother, whom we found still living in the very same house at *Whitehall*, which she occupied at my departure.

After the first emotions of surprise were over, she embraced my wife in the most affectionate manner, highly approving of the choice I had made.

I shall not longer tire the reader's patience with the trifling occurrences of my life, than to inform him that my mother lived several years afterward, an affectionate parent to us both; and that my wife is still living, with five fine children; the produce of our loves, whom we hope to leave our representatives.

Malack and his wife too (for they are both now baptized and married) are raising a progeny, to be transplanted among the future settlements of my family.

23 JY 59



n as
both
oked
my

fix
Paris
pro-
king

Lon-
liv-
oc-

the
inner,

the
him
af-
still
our

now
to be
fa-